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Volume 44, No. 3 *Whole No. 315*

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THE CRISIS *was founded in 1910. It is published monthly at 69 Fifth Avenue, New York, N. Y., by Crisis Publishing Company, Inc., and is the official organ of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. The subscription price is $1.50 a year or 15c a copy. Foreign subscriptions $1.75. The date of expiration of each subscription is printed on the wrapper. When the subscription is due a blue renewal blank is enclosed. The address of a subscriber may be changed as often as desired, but both the old and new address must be given and two weeks' notice is necessary. Manuscripts and drawings relating to colored people are desired. They must be accompanied by return postage, and while* THE CRISIS *uses every care it assumes no responsibility for their safety in transit. Entered as second class matter November 2, 1910, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879, and additional second class entry at Albany, N. Y.*

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NEXT MONTH

"Should Negro players be permitted in major league baseball?" This question was asked of sports editors and columnists on leading daily newspapers in all sections of the country and the answers will be a leading feature of the April number.

•

Another interesting item for April will be George S. Schuyler's piece, "Do We Really Want to Be Free?"

•

There will be, also, an article on the supreme court, Justice Harlan and the Negro, which will be timely in view of the discussion of the U. S. high court not going the rounds.

•

THE CRISIS is always anxious to receive short fiction, 1,800 to 3,000 words.

•

The rise of Benny Goodman's dance band, with its colored arranger and two colored players, will be told in "Swing King," an article by John Hammond.

OUR CONTRIBUTORS

Dr. W. L. Wright is president of Lincoln university in Pennsylvania.

•

Edward E. Redcay is dean of men at the State Teachers college at Plattsburgh, N. Y. For three years, 1932-35, he was research associate to the John E. Slater Fund and Anna T. Jeanes Foundation.

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•

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•

W. E. Harrison lives in Cambridge, Mass.

The Small College in American Education

By W. L. Wright

Principal advantages of the small Negro college are outlined here by the president of Lincoln University in Pennsylvania, the oldest Negro college in America

ORIGINATING in America the small liberal arts college is an important and distinctive feature in American education. There is recognition of its value in the tendency of some of the large universities to break up the larger units into smaller divisions and thus retain many of the recognized advantages of the small college in the cultivation of intimate relations and fellowship.

The small college and the university supplement each other as they fill out the opportunity for education in the higher fields. They present a choice as they offer contrasting modes of academic life and different methods of approach to learning.

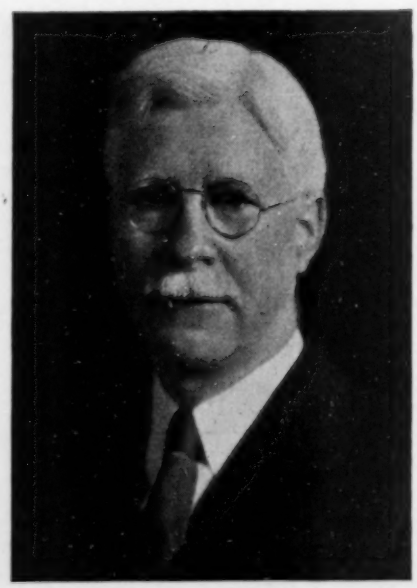
The small college will have perhaps five hundred students, usually in the East, of one sex and ordinarily, in contrast with the university, it will have a suburban or country location. Of such institutions I write. The student looking forward to college will weigh the advantages and disadvantages of the two types. To individual students one will be more attractive as different kinds of living and environment attract him, as he considers the manner of life, the social, moral, and intellectual opportunities in relation to his ulterior purpose.

These are some of the appealing things in the small college. In the more limited group, and especially if there is dormitory life and the absence of a surrounding population in which the college community is swallowed up, there is a maximum of possibility for acquaintanceship, friendship, and co-operation in the pursuit of common ideals and purposes. If the college is fortunate enough to draw its students from a wide area with varying economic and social backgrounds, a considerable part of the benefit of the college experience may lie in the rubbing of mind against mind and the working out into a fuller understanding and appreciation of life in its varied aspects.

Lasting Friendships

Princeton in the early nineties was a small college. The town was of little significance. Everybody knew everyone else and the freshmen entrants soon could name every student and faculty member. The friendships I formed there have been a lifelong satisfaction. At Lincoln I have been impressed so often with the fact that friendships formed there in college days have lasted through life with increasing fragrance. There has been a happy feeling that Lincoln men were all members of a great family. With twenty-five states represented and a few men from Africa and the Islands, with fifty-four per cent of its population coming from the three great Middle Atlantic states and thirty-five per cent from the South all the way down to the Gulf, the Lincoln students contribute to each other the experiences of a varied life from the country areas of the cotton fields to the intense life of the metropolitan centers of the North. In their close association and constant contacts is realized to the full the statement of Emerson, "You send your child to the schoolmaster, but 'tis the school boys who educate him."

In all the activities of the college life the student takes a part. The community is his. It is his world. The opportunity is open to all in the organizations for mental, moral and physical culture. These form a laboratory for effort and experience where minds are keen, competition intense, and where he who would be a leader must show his mettle. It is an arena in which the less wounds of contest may save many a severer one in more vital fields.



President Wright

With the ideal that everyone should be active in something beyond the classroom, the small college offers an alluring prospect to students and faculty alike. There is little of the blasé in life. Each is interested in the other. Success is personal and permeates the group. The performer in any field is a well known man within the common bond of friendship. One goes forth from such an experience of four years with little of the discouraging attitude of the day, of the futility of life, of the assumption that he has experienced and known life, but rather with a wholesome joy of living. He has lived in a world where a man has been a man, appreciated for his worth. He has a suggestion that will linger in his memory as a possibility for life, a constant questioning whether knowledge, morality, and religion may not yet work out a better way of which he has had a glimpse. In any case, he is encouraged to put his own shoulder to the wheel with a measure of hope.

To the faculty, the small college offers the possibility of experiment, of variety, of working out something dreamed of in "the art of promoting the growth of human beings." It may be with the whole college, it may be with a smaller group with ability and interest in some special field. Over against the disadvantages of a less concentrated field is a compensation in the broader culture and the opportunity for individual initiative and expression in the directing of one's own work. He has independence and responsibility. He is not part of a machine. The latter may be desirable, most useful as it moves with well oiled wheels, yet emphasis on the individual is always attractive and desirable. The small college has a useful individuality as it works with a closely united group with a well defined purpose. He who enters into its life has something of the feeling of Ulysses

> "I am a part of all that I have met;
> Yet all experience is an arch where thro'
> Gleams that untravelled world whose margin fades
> For ever and for ever when I move."

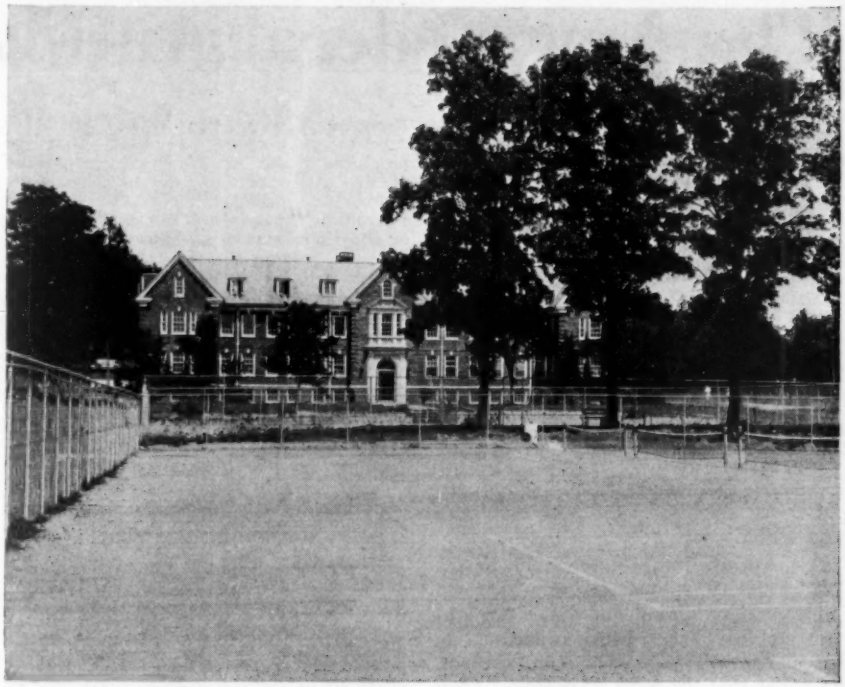
On the part of the student is developed a feeling that his own life is important, lived in his own way. There is something of the spirit of independence that has

ever been characteristic of the rural life in America, as this has been a source of strength to the urban development filtering into the stream of city life. The student of the small college has invigorated the life of the university in his graduate or professional years. The student is master of his world. He knows it. He has the resulting confidence as he enters the larger field. If the world he has thus known is not narrowed and circumscribed through too local and uniform a populace, he has from his student contacts a valuable preparation. He has dealt with men of varied type, intimately and at close range. He knows their emotions and their reactions.

The college may be coeducational or not. I do not enter into the arguments. The older northern areas present all possibilities. The women draw off by themselves in New England colleges and Vassar and Bryn Mawr, and correspondingly, we have the historic colleges for men alone. In other cases there is the full measure of coeducation or a remoter affiliation. The small college free from coeducational influences offers an atmosphere with a minimum of distraction and an opportunity for the thorough intellectual work the college should require. With the present ease of transportation, desired social contacts are available on the campus or in the adjacent cities, but there is not the risk of the too great concentration on these at the expense of serious application the college should demand. This refers only to the college age. The problem changes with the greater maturity of the professional or graduate student. It may be said with assurance that some college students will benefit by the absence of the allurements of the modern city and the freedom from the constant mingling of the sexes on the same campus and in the same classroom.

Mission of Negro College

The small Negro college should have a useful future if it exercises foresight and vision. In the South it is still so largely the hope of the ordinary youth scattered over the whole area. In the North it has a mission. One may hope for the day when this cannot be said, but the hard fact today is that few can leap over the economic and other barriers into the white colleges that dot the land. If they enter, little of the human side of college life is theirs. The main avenue to progress for the race for the present generation is the Negro college. The development of it with equal equipment and equal faculty will do much to bring about the day when, its mission extraordinary ended, it will become one among the colleges of the land with a unique history and tradition.



A view of the Lincoln university (Pa.) campus

There is truth in the statement of Dean Holmes that "so long as racial segregation exists in the United States, the Negro college will be necessary as a means of introducing Negroes to the larger life."

In the small college the student reaps the full benefit of personal contact with fellow students and with faculty. The tree is not lost in the forest. The compact, social community makes for the development of friendship, out of intimate discussion comes understanding. The student is known in his community. He has a sense of importance. There is a college life, a tradition which he inherits, along with an urge to put something of himself into the betterment of that life. He gives expression to himself and tries to mould the college life into more desirable forms. The world he will soon enter lies all about him. He studies its past and its present. Meanwhile, he is part of his own little world and shaping it for good or ill. In a peculiar way this may appeal to the Negro student. It is perhaps the most natural life he will ever see, in the sense that he lives it not as a Negro but as a human being. With a liberal system of self-government and cooperative control with the faculty, he is a member of a democracy where all men are treated as equals and seldom is he reminded of the racial discriminations that prevail without.

Retirement and Advantage

It is a wholesome thing that for a few brief years he should be dissociated from the responsibilities and worries of life, free from the constant irritating reminder of prejudice. The call for the student to battle with these in his student days is a doubtful one. The question is of the use of his whole life and this may be the more effective for the detached quiet study of the things that concern the world he sees without. Are not the student days after all, days of preparation rather than of participation?

The small college presents no lack of opportunity for scholarly work. The faculty member is not restricted in research and creative production though more may be expected of him in teaching ability and personal human interest, provided, of course, he is not weighed down with excessive hours and this may happen in the large university as well. With laboratories and library, and access to books and men so easy in these days of rapid transportation, student and faculty suffer little handicap in all that affects their intellectual advancement.

The ideal we picture is a community of scholars and students for mutual help. For four short years, they mingle with each other, and from their study of the natural and social sciences and the humanities, get a realization of relative values and the essential things in life. From these associations they go forth with understanding and an intelligent purpose to put their energy into attractive and useful endeavor.

As one sets forth the reasons that justify the existence of the small college,

(*Continued on page* 82)

The New Federal Anti-Lynching Bill

A new federal anti-lynching bill, which is really a revision of the well-known Costigan-Wagner anti-lynching bill, was introduced in the House of Representatives the last week in January under the sponsorship of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

It will be introduced in the Senate by Senator Robert F. Wagner, of New York, and Frederick Van Luys. The N.A.A.C.P. has requested representatives who are friendly to this legislation to introduce identical bills in the hope of arousing greater support for the measure in the House. Up to February 9, thirty such identical bills had been introduced.

One of the objections raised to the old bill was that it might be interpreted as applying to gang and racketeer killing and to clashes between factions in labor disputes. The new bill expressly provides that the term "lynching" "shall not be deemed to include violence occurring between members of groups of law breakers such as are commonly designated as gangsters or racketeers, or violence occurring during the course of picketing or boycotting incidental to any labor dispute."

The new bill also broadens the Lindbergh federal kidnapping act to include interstate kidnapings and lynchings such as the Claude Neal lynching.

The new bill, like the Costigan-Wagner bill, is not simply confined to those in the custody of peace officers. It covers cases in which victims are hunted down and lynched by mobs or so-called posses before they are ever arrested and formally charged with a crime.

The new bill does not attempt to punish private individuals, but concentrates on punishment of peace officers and state prosecutors who fail to protect prisoners before lynching or prosecute the members of the mob after a lynching has taken place. It still provides for civil damages against the county or counties in which lynchings occur.

The new bill also differs from the Costigan-Wagner bill in that it provides definitely for the conduct of an investigation of a lynching by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, better known as the G-men. The complete text of the bill follows:

A BILL

For the better assurance of the protection of persons from mob violence and lynching

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the provisions of this Act are enacted in exercise of the power of Congress to enforce, by appropriate legislation, the provisions of the Fourteenth Amendment of the Constitution of the United States and for the purpose of better assuring under said Amendment equal protection to the lives and persons of citizens and due process of law to all persons charged with or suspected or convicted of any offense within the jurisdiction of the several states. A State shall be deemed to have denied to any victim or victims of lynching equal protection and due process of law whenever that State or any legally competent governmental subdivision thereof shall have failed, neglected or refused to employ the lawful means at its disposal for the protection of that person or those persons against lynching or against seizure and abduction followed by lynching.

Section 2. Any assemblage of three or more persons which shall exercise or attempt to exercise by physical violence and without authority of law any power of correction or punishment over any citizen or citizens or other person or persons in the custody of any peace officer or suspected of, charged with, or convicted of the commission of any offense, with the purpose or consequence of preventing the apprehension or trial or punishment by law of such citizen or citizens, person or persons, shall constitute a "mob" within the meaning of this Act. Any such violence by a mob which results in the death or maiming of the victim or victims thereof shall constitute "lynching" within the meaning of this Act. *Provided*, however, That "lynching" shall not be deemed to include violence occurring between members of groups of lawbreakers such as are commonly designated as gangsters or racketeers, nor violence occuring during the course of picketing or boycotting or any incident in connection with any "labor dispute" as that term is defined and used in the Act of March 23, 1932 (47 Stat. 70).

Section 3. Whenever a lynching of any person or persons shall occur, any officer or employee of a State or any governmental subdivision thereof who shall have been charged with the duty or shall have possessed the authority as such officer or employee to protect such person or persons from lynching and shall have wilfully neglected, refused or failed to make all diligent efforts to protect such person or persons from lynching and any officer or employee of a State or governmental subdivision thereof who shall have had custody of the person or person lynched and shall have wilfully neglected, refused or failed to make all diligent efforts to protect such person or persons from lynching, and any officer or employee of a state or governmental subdivision thereof who, having the duty as such officer or employee, shall wilfully neglect, refuse, or fail to make all diligent efforts to apprehend, keep in custody or prosecute the members or any member of the lynching mob, shall be guilty of a felony, and upon conviction thereof shall be punished by a fine not exceeding $5,000, or by imprisonment not exceeding five years, or by both such fine and imprisonment.

Section 4. Whenever a lynching of any person or persons shall occur, and information on oath is submitted to the Attorney General of the United States that any officer or employee of a State or any governmental subdivision thereof who shall have been charged with the duty or shall have possessed the authority as such officer or employee to protect such person or persons from lynching, or who shall have had custody of the person or persons lynched, has wilfully neglected, refused or failde to make all diligent efforts to protect such person or persons from lynching or that any officer or employee of a State or governmental subdivision thereof, in violation of his duty as such officer or employee, has wilfully neglected, refused or wilfully failed to make all diligent efforts to apprehend, keep in custody or prosecute the members or any member of the lynching mob, the Attorney General of the United States shall cause an investigation to be made to determine whether there has been any violation of this Act.

Section 5 (1). Every governmental subdivision of a State to which the State shall have delegated functions of police shall be responsible for any lynching occurring within its territorial jurisdiction. Every such governmental subdivision shall also be responsible for any lynching occurring outside of its territorial jurisdiction, whether within or without the same State, which follows upon the seizure and abduction of the victim or victims within its territorial jurisdiction. Any such governmental subdivision which shall fail to prevent any such lynching or any such seizure and abduction followed by lynching shall be liable to each person injured, or to his or her next of kin if such injury results in death, for a sum not less than $2,000, and not more than $10,000, as monetary compensation for such injury or death. *Provided*, however, That the governmental subdivision may prove by a preponderance of evidence as an affirmative defense that the officers thereof charged with the duty of preserving the peace, and the citizens thereof when called upon by any such officer, used all diligence and all powers vested in them for the protection of the person lynched; *And Provided, further*, That the satisfaction of judgment against one governmental subdivision responsible for a lynching shall bar further proceedings against any other governmental subdivision which may also be responsible for that lynching.

(2). Liability arising under this section may be enforced and the compensation herein provided for may be recovered in a civil action in the United States District Court for the judicial district of which the defendant governmental subdivision is a part. Such action shall be brought and prosecuted by the Attorney General of the United States or his duly authorized representative in the name of the United States for the use of the real party in interest, or, if the claimant or claimants shall so elect, by counsel employed by the claimant or claimants, but in any event without prepayment of costs. If the amount of any such judgment shall not be paid upon demand, payment thereof may be enforced by any process available under the state law for the enforcement of any other money judgment against such a governmental subdivision. Any officer of such governmental subdivision or any other person who shall disobey or fail to comply with any lawful order or decree of the court for the enforcement of the judgment shall be guilty of contempt of that court and punished accordingly. The cause of action accruing hereunder to a person injured by lynching shall not abate with the subsequent death of that person before final judgment but shall survive to his or her next of kin. For the purpose of this Act the next of kin of a deceased victim of lynching shall be determined according to the laws of intestate distribution in the State of domicile of the

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Social Justice Fifty Miles from Washington

By Edward E. Redcay

A word picture of a Negro school in rural Virginia which points dramatically to the handicaps surmounted by Negroes and makes all the more remarkable the achievements they have made

ACROSS - EYED, dark - haired, curly-headed youngster who smiled at the right moment is responsible for this narrative.

The building is an unpainted, rough, barn on stilts. It is such a barn as no successful farmer in Lancaster or Berks county, Pennsylvania, would want to quarter his cattle and horses. By placing the building on stilts, the danger of the first floor being flooded is eliminated; at the same time the elevated floor is bitterly cold in winter and delightfully cool in summer (when the school is not in session, for the term ends shortly after the first day of April). The structure is bisected by a hall that leads from the rickety, broken, front-porch to the extreme rear end. Here, the back door opens upon a roughly cleared playground where mud, ashes, and unsightly debris, add hazards and doubtful zest to the playful antics of little children. One descends to this play site by means of a flight of stairs fashioned from odd pieces of lumber by the pupils in the manual training course—an adaptive project made necessary by the final surrender of the replaced flight to old age and the persistence of decomposition bacteria.

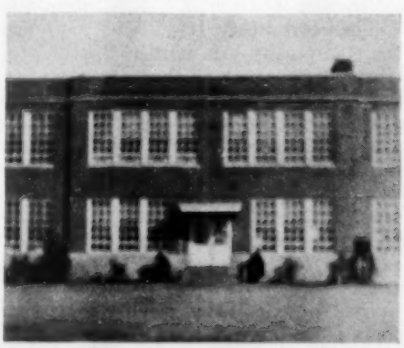
Conspicuous is a well worn path leading from the steps to a crudely constructed toilet, thrown together from heterogeneous clapboards, and grotesquely crowned with a piece of rusty tin. A thin partition, dedicated to Dame Modesty, departmentalizes the structure with reference to its use by the opposite sexes. It is extremely well ventilated, although more by accident than design. It is quite sanitary, if, and only when, the temperature falls below the freezing point when most disease-causing bacteria are killed or retreat within their self-made protective spore walls. As the temperature rises the deadly microbes increasingly enjoy their resurrection amidst odors that, with each degree elevation in the Farenheit scale, make more difficult the olfactory discriminatory function with which we are wont to recognize the flowers that bloom in the spring.

No fire in stove

Why not visit a moment in the two rooms on the left side of this schoolhouse which is part of a dual system of schools? Of course, this particular school is but one of many similar schools which are provided for that minority race in the South for whom are reserved the least desirable aspects of things, social, political, cultural, economic, and educational. We are now in the high school department. An algebra class is in session. Twenty students share the eight available seats which had been designed for use in the days when discomfort was encouraged to augment the disciplinary function of the school. All the girls are wearing the shabby garments that serve as overcoats, for even the mutual sharing of bodily heat necessitated by an insufficient supply of seats and textbooks (textbooks and teaching supplies are not provided free in this, and most of the other states in the South) cannot compensate for the icy temperature of this unheated room. To be sure, over in the far corner is an ancient "monkey-jumper" stove; but wood and coal must be hoarded for heating the rooms in which those of more tender years are herded.

The teacher looks as though he might be able to teach, although he pays more attention to the text than to probing his pupils for reactions. Even with such liberal use of his prop it is with great uncertainity that he ploughs through the maize of the binomial theorem. And we cannot blame him too harshly for his lack of pedagogical precision. Not only does he teach all the algebra, but likewise the French, biology, chemistry, and industrial work.

When not occupied with the demands of the classroom, he devotes his spare time to the administrative and supervisory tasks of his principalship. In the late afternoons and evenings he harangues the Negro citizenry to arouse interest in this school which offers all the high school opportunities provided in this county for the children of the minority race. If he can raise two hundred dollars they can purchase the bare minimum of books which will dignify the school to the extent of possessing a "library." Once this objective is attained they will be one step nearer to being accredited by the State Department of Education, and once accredited, such pupils as are graduated by the high school will be eligible for admittance to college.



A Rosenwald school in Virginia

One or, at best, two out of every ten children who are so honored, will go to college—provided their parents can deny themselves more of the necessities which have been all too meagre in the past. Instinctively, these people realize that higher education and the advancement of the race are closely identified. Great are the sacrifices made by these humble folk who somehow expect that which goes by the name of Education, to bestow upon their progeny advantages which they never were privileged to experience.

Passing out into the hall, we are tempted to ascertain just what lies in store for us at the end of the stairs leading to the second floor. Up there we find two rooms used by the four female teachers and another which is reserved for the principal. These three rooms serve not only as bed-rooms, but also as study, kitchen, and dining-room for these educational Spartans. Were it not for these accommodations it is doubtful if they could secure even a pretense of living quarters within five or ten miles of the school. Here then, they must make their little Heaven on earth. At the same time they must guard carefully their less public moments lest their natural biological tendencies lead them to such use of their personal liberties as to warrant the charge of moral turpitude.

One room: 56 pupils

Downstairs once again, we pass across the hall to a room teeming with fifty-six girls and boys of assorted ages ranging from ten to twenty years. An overworked teacher is trying to guide these beings through the fundamentals of the fourth, fifth, sixth and seventh grades. Three pupils crowd every seat and share

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Types of Southern Schools

By William Pickens

THE editor of THE CRISIS has asked me to write a few words about the events of a recent visit of mine to the University of North Carolina. But as that alone would involve too personal a recital, I will widen the interest a bit by speaking also of my impressions of other schools.

In racial classification we have the following types of southern schools:

1. Public (and state) schools for Negroes with all Negro teachers.
2. Public schools for Negroes with white principals and teachers, or with colored subordinate teachers.
3. Private schools for Negroes with Negro heads and teachers.
4. Private schools for Negroes with white heads, and usually with white and colored subordinate teachers.
5. Public and state schools for whites with white teachers.
6. Private schools for whites with white teachers.

The student bodies are always either all white or all colored—except in rare cases where the white teachers in Negro private schools (never in Negro public schools) quietly exercise the privilege of teaching their own sons and daughters in the same classes where they teach the colored pupils. And a white head for a Negro private school may mean a white-and-colored faculty; but a Negro head means an all colored faculty, except in the transition periods, and then not for long, as when the change is suddenly made from a white head to a colored head, and a few of the white teachers hang on until they find other work. And to date the only apparent exceptions to the solid white student bodies in the regular state universities are the attendance of a colored student in the law department of the University of Maryland, brought about by a fight of the N.A.A.C.P., and the rare cases when some southern university extended distant privileges to distant colored students in their "extension" courses.

The Negroes, therefore, have four of these types of schools, while the whites have normally only two. And when a colored leader comes along, each one of these types has its own peculiar reaction to his impact, in some cases the situation being so sensitive that he never gets to impinge upon them at all. It is only in recent times that a school for Negroes, with a white president, would risk as a formal visitor or speaker a representative of an organization like the N.A.A.C.P.; and the time is more recent still since any of the white institutions have begun to assume such risks.

White college students, even in the South, are more frank in their discussions of the race problem than Negro college students, and faculties in white southern colleges are far less disturbed over such discussions than faculties in colleges for Negroes, asserts Dean Pickens

White Colleges Unafraid

In many years of speaking and holding seminars with white teachers and students all over the United States, especially in the North, East and West—and on the background of a similar but more limited experience among the Negro schools of the country—I had noticed two things: that the white faculties of white schools were much less jittery about what I might say before I had said it, than were either the white or colored faculties of the Negro schools; and that white students were much bolder and franker than colored students anywhere in discussing all the intimacies of race relations, from industrialism to intermarriage. In a great youth conference in Kansas City, Mo., the young people were gathered from all over the Middle West, the girls predominating; and when the white girls of my seminar entered upon a fearless and unbiased discussion of the question of interracial marriage, one of the few colored girls present objected, with evident abashment: "I think we ought to discuss something more important." She was answered immediately: that there was not, and perhaps never could be, any phase of race relations more important to discuss.

Therefore, when I was invited to visit the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and take the first period of the day for an address and question period with the senior and junior division in history and sociology, I was not unprepared to find that university up front in open-mindedness, "as the South goes." But my prejudiced reservation was surprised to find that I was face to face with a group such as I had met in the University of California, or at Harvard, or at Wellesley. Here and there I could see a student who stiffened uncomfortably in his seat at first, as if to withdraw into his shell, but later to come out and melt in perfect human ease. Perhaps such a student was from some limited community where he or she had never seen a Negro in any role except as minstrel or servant. But one may meet similar individual characters in the University of Indiana, or of Chicago.

University of North Carolina

The invitation was only for the first period of the morning, from 8:30 to 9:30. Perhaps that was precautionary. And why not? They had never heard me before, and I might prove to be a fool, who instead of trying to instruct and influence, might try to start a revolution in North Carolina, and perhaps it would take the university faculties all the rest of the day to try to set things straight again after I got through. I noticed, too, that only teachers, graduate students, seniors and juniors were admitted to that first period. Freshmen and sophomores are less mature—and less civilized. But at the close of the period teachers, graduate students and undergraduates came forward to beg for further discussions with other classes and groups, and on it went for more than five hours: an hour with the freshmen and sophomores, after a two-hour seminar with postgraduate students and the heads of their departments. In that seminar we discussed the whole range of race relations and interracial history, speaking in a friendly spirit, but with a frankness on both sides that would have frightened the faculties of any Negro school in Dixie. I had insisted that I must leave at the latest by two o'clock. That included, of course, the noon meal period; and although the daily papers had just been carrying letters from prejudiced whites urging that one member of the faculty should be asked to resign because he had attended a dinner given by the colored people of Durham in honor of the Negro Communist vice-presidential candidate, still now six members of the faculty, including two of the women, took me to a good dinner in the principal university social building, without the manifestation of any extra-consciousness.

Even in the South a white school which elects to think about race relations may assume more liberty of thought than a colored school. We know the reasons for this; but the fact

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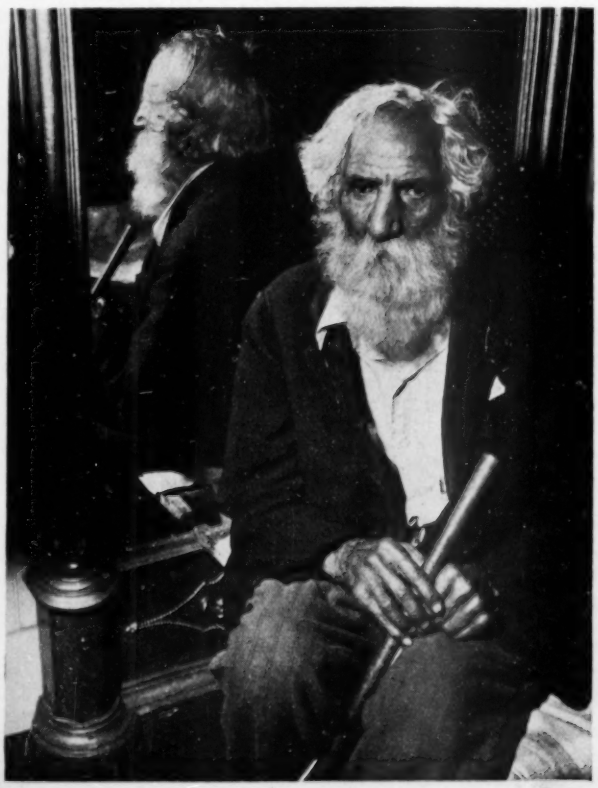
Pictures from the Flood Zone

BOX CAR FOR A HOME

This mother and her brood, like many a family, white and black, was driven from her home by the flood waters of the Ohio and Mississippi rivers. The youngsters look happy, particularly the third from the left, and the family dog is taking the situation philosophically. They live near Elaine, Arkansas.



A BLOW TO JIM CROW—TEMPORARILY

Louisville was one of the hardest hit of the cities in the path of the raging Ohio river and its Negro residential area was quickly inundated. The problem of housing the colored people driven from their homes was so acute that Mayor Neville Miller had to make a special appeal over the radio for care for Negro refugees. There was at first talk of great discrimination, but later reports said Louisville was doing right by her colored citizens.

The picture at the top, right, shows Negroes occupying the swanky and exclusive club room at the Churchill Downs racetrack, home of the Kentucky Derby. The picture at the left was also made in the club room. Both are by Margaret Bourke-White, famed photographer.

ALL PHOTOS FROM PICTURES, Inc.

For a Federal Anti-Lynching Bill

THE *Times-Dispatch* favors the enactment of the Federal anti-lynching bill just introduced in the House of Representatives and shortly to be introduced in the Senate. It sees no hope of ever wiping out lynching, the greatest crime against southern civilization, except through Federal action.

If every State would enact an anti-lynching law similar to that which Virginia passed a decade ago, lynching could be almost, if not wholly, obliterated. The Virginia law makes lynching an offense against the State as a whole, subjects all participants in lynchings to charges of murder, and authorizes the governor to have the attorney-general aid in the prosecution and to spend any sum he (the governor) deems wise in convicting the guilty parties. There has not been a single lynching in the Old Dominion since that law was placed on the statute books.

But it has become plain that few, if any, of the Southern States will follow Virginia's legislative example. Although the Dyer anti-lynching bill of 1922 and the Costigan-Wagner anti-lynching bill of 1935 would almost certainly have passed, but for the filibusters of Southern senators, most Southern States seem to have learned nothing from these episodes. Southern senators on both occasions expressed profound resentment over the possibility that the Federal Government might be permitted to interfere in the affairs of the states, but they do not seem to have done anything to make such intervention unnecessary.

THIS newspaper's primary objective is to put a stop to the seemingly endless series of mob murders which have disgraced the South and America before the world. That impresses us as far more important than the preservation of something generally referred to as "State sovereignty" or "State's rights." As long as State's rights are appreciated by the States, and the administrative authorities of the States show that they recognize the duties which accompany the exercise of such rights, this newspaper believes in respecting those rights. But when the phrase, "the rights of the States" degenerates into a mere shibboleth behind which the State and local authorities can ignore and flout the law of the land by permitting lynchers to go unpunished year after year, then the *Times-Dispatch* believes that intervention by the Federal Government is not only desirable but necessary.

The bill just introduced in Congress

This editorial is reprinted from the Richmond, Va., Times-Dispatch of February 2, 1937. The Times-Dispatch, with the publication of this editorial, becomes the first great independent southern daily newspaper to come out squarely for the enactment of a Federal anti-lynching law. Virginius Dabney, editor of the Times-Dispatch, has long been known as one of the leading liberals of the South

provides for such intervention. It provides that any responsible peace officer who fails to make adequate efforts to protect a prisoner from a mob, or to make diligent efforts to apprehend the members of the mob after a lynching, shall be guilty of a felony, and be fined up to $5,000 or imprisoned up to five years, or both. When the attorney-general of the United States is advised through an affidavit from a citizen that an officer is guilty of either of these offenses, the attorney-general initiates an investigation by Federal G-men to ascertain whether the anti-lynching law has been violated. If the conclusion is in the affirmative, action is instituted in the United States District Court against the peace officer or officers. There is no provision for prosecution of members of the mob.

It also is provided in the bill that a county shall be responsible for a lynching occurring within its boundaries, and that a fine of from $2,000 to $10,000 may be levied against the county by the United States district court, and paid to the heirs of the person lynched. If a county can show that its peace officers exercised due diligence in the protection of the victim of the mob, it is not subject to this fine.

Such, briefly stated, are the terms of the act. Some constitutional authorities, including Senator Borah, regard the measure as destructive of State's rights, and hence unconstitutional. Others take the opposite view, and hold that the bill does not conflict with the fundamental law.

Professor Karl N. Llewellyn of the Columbia University Law School has studied the measure carefully, and has rendered an opinion that it is clearly constitutional. He says, in part:

> "The Federal Government has the power and the implicit duty to assure to its citizens orderly, due, legal and even procedure in criminal cases at the hands of responsible officials. When States or officials or subdivisions of States are derelict in this regard, the Supreme Court, as one spokeman of the Federal Government, will interfere to correct. Congress can intervene to prevent the need for correction, and especially to prevent such dereliction as is irremediable. The general scope of the measure has a clear basis in the due process and equal protection clauses."

On this, as on many other constitutional questions, there is room for difference of opinion, of course. Professor Llewellyn may be wrong, and Senator Borah may be right. But we should like to see that bill enacted and carried to the United States Supreme Court for a ruling. If the Supreme Court holds the law invalid, that will be unfortunate. But something must be done to end the present intolerable situation, and the measure just introduced seems the best way out.

WE have seen no formal pronouncement of late on this subject from the Commission on Interracial Co-operation, with headquarters in Atlanta. In the spring of 1935, when the Costigan-Wagner bill was under consideration, the commission met, with its chairman, Dr. W. W. Alexander, presiding, and unanimously adopted a resolution calling for the enactment of Federal anti-lynching legislation. The commission, which is composed of 130 representative southerners in 13 states, declared without a dissenting voice that "in not one case in 10 is an effective effort made by the (State or local) authorities to identify and prosecute the members of lynching mobs." It went on to say that "even in the rare cases in which such efforts have been made, indictments have seldom been obtained, and convictions have usually proved impossible."

It is clear, then, that lynching will not be wiped out until there is a new spirit abroad in the land, or until State and local authorities bestir themselves far more vigorously than they have done heretofore. We see no likelihood that either will occur in the measurable future.

One of the most convincing demonstrations that this is true was given in the autumn of 1934, when Claude Neal was taken from an Alabama jail and lynched in Florida. At least 15 hours' notice was given in the nation's press and over the radio that Neal was to be lynched and from 4,000 to 7,000 white

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Private and Public Colleges-Whither Bound?

By R. B. Atwood

I SAT in the annual meeting of the Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools for Negroes. It was well attended and words and ideas in plenitude were flung dazzlingly around the room. Such a meeting was important as the schools represented were those whose names may be found on the Southern Association list. They are all rated, and to be rated means that the school has attained excellence, though some are A-rated and some B-rated. Only the rated ones, however, can become members of the association. So much for the company in which I sat.

A well-known dean of a well-known educational institution was speaking. His physical countenance showed that he had been about this business of education a long time. As he spoke the delegates sat in captivated silence. The dean is himself a distinguished son of a distinguished American university and stands high in the educational world. He was addressing himself to an age-old subject,—a subject which we have with us now, have always had, and no doubt always will. His subject was "College Rivalries." Mind you not "wholesome" college rivalries, just college rivalries. In substance, said he:

"Not only do rivalries exist between institution and institution, but sometimes whole groups of institutions are involved. A case at hand is the group of land-grant colleges. The land-grant colleges are arrayed against the field! The administrators of the land grant colleges should remember that nearly all, if not all of them, are themselves graduates of private colleges."

It is suggested here that private colleges, in the face of the growth of public colleges, might carve out new fields in preparing the race for full citizenship

Long after the dean had taken his seat, I continued to think of the chronic conflict between privately supported and publicly supported educational institutions. The dean's speech was amusingly clever and splendidly delivered. But it stopped far short of defining the fields in which these two groups of institutions may move without trespassing upon each others toes and thereby eliminating the causes of unwholesome rivalries. Indeed, ere the association had adjourned, there was passed upon a motion of the president of one of our leading universities, a resolution asking an outside agency to make a study and chart these fields.

The clash between private initiative and so-called public usurpation is as old as America itself, and only the casual thinker believes that it is limited to the field of education. More and more the public is doing for itself in all fields what it once depended upon private initiative to do. Wrapped inside this question is the issue of the day.

Growth of Public Functions

The task of extinguishing a fire in a community was once left to the bucket brigade of private citizens. The smallest American community of today performs this function at public expense. Our gigantic postal service began as a small private enterprise. When one travels upon our vast network of highways that covers the land today, scarcely can he be made to believe that not many years ago our roads were privately constructed and controlled. More recently congressmen, editors, and citizens in all walks of life have been and still are debating whether we shall have public control of business through the NRA; of agriculture through the AAA; of power through the TVA and so on ad infinitum.

At the conception of American schools the task of instructing the child was left to the housewife, and from this humble beginning has developed our publicly supported elementary and secondary school system and to a growing extent our institutions of higher learning. It did not take the nation long to see that its elementary schools must be publicly supported. The decision of Judge Thomas M. Cooley in the so called Kalamazoo case supplied in 1874 the legal justification for the expenditure of public funds for high schools. The free public high school has developed so rapidly during the past four decades that privately supported secondary schools, with few exceptions, have become a thing of the past. Privately supported elementary schools with the exception of those supported by one large denomination have almost passed out of existence.

During the period immediately following the War Between the States, privately controlled schools, with the

(*Continued on next page*)

Kentucky Hall, the $184,000 girls' dormitory at Kentucky State College

exception of Howard university, were the only educational institutions serving the recently emancipated Negroes. As was necessary, they began this service on the elementary level. As the public provided elementary schools for Negroes, the private schools retired from the field and advanced to the secondary level. Later the publicly supported schools entered the secondary field, and the private schools undertook college work. For a while it seemed as though this was their permanent citadel. Southern legislatures seemed inclined to provide only industrial education and normal schools for their Negro citizens. The past thirty years have witnessed a change of policy. Not only are southern legislatures providing for Negroes college education leading to the bachelor's degree, but indeed some, edged on by threatened court action and attempting to avert payment of fees to institutions outside their states, are launching boldly, and perhaps, too hastily, into the field of graduate instruction.

Names Being Changed

A small though significant fact is that one after the other, the legislatures are changing the long, cumbersome, Negro-indicating names, such as "Industrial," "Agricultural and Mechanical," "Normal," to just a plain State College. Only the other day, the name of a so-called State Industrial College in a deep southern state was changed by the Board of Regents to State College. In increasing amounts the legislatures have provided grounds, buildings, and equipment for college education for Negroes, and in four or five states, inventoried plant assets of these colleges exceeds a million dollars each. Their enrollment of students on the college level has increased by leaps and bounds, their elementary classes have vanished and their secondary figures are steadily declining. Thus we have the picture: finding little or no necessity to serve the needs of the Negro on the elementary level; finding a decreasing need for service on the secondary level; and finding the publicly supported colleges rushing, as it were, into service on the college level, and gradually initiating programs of graduate instruction, what then, is the privately supported college to do?

To be sure a comprehensive study of the question is needed. Such a study should be made by a thoroughly competent independent agency that should survey present status and trends, and chart a future course along which institutions may sail without conflicts and clashes. There seems to be little support for any argument that there are too many institutions in the field. There are not too many, but there are too many trying to do the same thing, while many needed and worthwhile services are being neglected.

With the picture clearly before our eyes, let us see if we can agree upon some principles:

1. There is abundant need for both our public and private colleges.
2. There is no higher educational level at present to which our privately supported colleges may retreat. The time is at hand when both groups must serve on the same educational levels.
3. The work of the private college must complement that of the public college, not supplant it.
4. The private college must find new needs that must be served which the public college is not reaching.
5. The private school must have the pioneering spirit. Private control lends itself more readily to experimentation, quicker change and adaptation. Therefore, when it has explored, discovered, and developed a new field of service, a major contribution to society has been made, the validity of such claims would be attested all the stronger, should the very same service become publicly-performed. If it does become adequately performed by the public, the private college must search and find a new field. The degree to which it accepts the pioneering spirit is the life or death of the private college.

The statements just enunciated may appear quite authoritative, but for the most part they are supported by the policies adopted by philanthropic agencies in aiding education in the states. Private philanthropy in many instances has financed new services of State Departments of Education through experimental periods, and retired their support at the time the service was taken over at public expense. To stimulation by private philanthropy, probably more than to any other single factor, may be attributed the progress made in getting proper public support of education for Negroes in the South.

New Courses Suggested

I have always wondered why some of our private colleges, with the freedom of policy which they have, did not forsake the well-worn paths in education and carve out a new course. In reality, are not nine out of ten of our private colleges, so-called liberal arts institutions whose students are seeking certificates and whose graduates are planning to teach? I have actually heard some private college administrators become furious because the public schools were employing mostly the new teachers which the state itself had trained, and this in spite of the fact that the constitutions of all our forty-eight states read uniformly, to a surprising degree, that the state shall provide an efficient system of common schools.

Granting that the progress of the race during these 73 years has been commendable even the casual observer knows that our schools have not yet hit the mark. There is virgin territory yet to be trod. Does not the untouched field of adult education among Negroes sound a clarion call to those who are venturesome, or are we too tied down to our system of entrance units, semester hours and quality points to actually serve the masses of our people? Are we willing to deceive ourselves into believing that our workers in industry are well informed on the laws of economics, labor legislation, social security and labor unionism and that the Negro parent is well acquainted with the principles and practices of child care, budgeting the family income and household arts? What of business, religion, fine arts, journalism, research, psychology, testing and measuring, law and engineering? Are we saturated with efficiency in these fields?

Educational institutions, like individuals, have always striven to equal or outdo one another. Perhaps they always will. Some of the bitterness of institutional rivalry can be eliminated by charting courses along different lines. Two institutions, each excellent in a chosen line of work, may compete for excellence without any bitterness at all. The story is quite different when their work is the same and they are located near each other.

I believe by careful planning we can eliminate a great deal of the unwholesome rivalry existing between public and private colleges. There are other rivalries about which I have not spoken in this paper. They are important none the less. I refer to rivalry between private institution and private institution, between colleges of one denomination and those of another; but these are horses of other colors.

Afraid Am I

By Elzy Wright

Afraid am I. To walk the streets
My heart in rapid measure beats.
No earth more fair—no skies more clear
Than in the Southland that I fear.
Afraid am I. They say I'm free.
Shall I be slave eternally?
Must I still bow my weary head
And swallow insults 'til I'm dead?
Afraid am I. My skin is black,
My hair is kinky. Morals lack
The high integrity of the white—
They say. And I'm afraid to fight.
Yes I'm afraid. Most any day
The sun may rise and people say,
"If he were innocent we don't care,
Our honor's safe. His trial was fair.
Afraid am I. Almost to claim
My right to Heaven. In Jesus' name
I'll still abide. All men He made.
Did He not say, "Be not afraid?"

The Robert Gould Shaw House

By W. E. Harrison

BOSTON possesses in the Robert Gould Shaw House an institution of compelling interest. It is a settlement house founded in 1908 in memory of the gallant colonel who commanded a regiment of Negro volunteers during the Civil War. On historic Boston Common there is another memorial of Colonel Shaw: a bronze plaque, which, as if in some Attic frieze, shows him leading his troops to battle. The Roman poet wished his verses to be more enduring than bronze (*monumentum aere perennius*); of Shaw House as a monument to Colonel Shaw one may say that an enterprise designed to perpetuate daily, by living example, the liberal traditions for which Boston has justly been famous, is a monument which is durable, because it cannot be forgotten or ignored in any generation, even when fashions change (as they have a habit of doing), and the respect due to our ancestors is held in abeyance. What Shaw represented was the spirit of nineteenth century humanitarianism at its best, and his activities as well as his rôle in history are centered in the anti-slavery movement. Today, when the liberty of the Negro is threatened again—this time by the loathsome spectre of Fascism—it is fortunate that institutions like Shaw House exist, and that they are directed by socially-minded people.

Judged by any standards, Julian D. Steele, the present director, is a young man who will bear watching. His potentialities were recognized even when he was a student in the Boston Latin school, from which he was graduated in 1925. He was the first Negro student selected by Dr. P. T. Campbell, the Head Master, to speak at the Washington-Lincoln exercises in Symphony hall. The late William Monroe Trotter chose him as young people's editor of the Boston *Guardian*, the famous progressive weekly. From the Latin school Steele went to Harvard, where he took his A.B., *cum laude*, in 1929; the next year found him an advanced student at the New York School of Social Work as holder of a Julius Rosenwald Fellowship. He became director of the House, upon the completion of that course, and began to lecture in the department of sociology at Harvard under the tutelage of Professor Richard C. Cabot, the well-known sociologist. Other New England colleges, in the course of time, sought his services as a lecturer. He has given lectures at Radcliffe, Wellesley, Amherst, Simmons, and Bates colleges, Boston and Northeastern universities. In 1934 he traveled abroad and made an extensive survey of social conditions in England. At Kingsley Hall in London he was the guest of Miss Muriel Lester, prominent British pacifist, and in Birmingham another leader of the peace movement, the Rev. Leyton Richards, was his host.

Julian D. Steele

Under such a director, assisted by a staff of competent workers, the expansion of the Shaw House could have been predicted. In 1931, a year after he assumed office, a new building was erected and now the institution consists of three brick buildings situated in the heart of Boston's Negro section. To meet the needs of the community served by the House a camp was purchased in 1936. This is located at "Breezy Meadows," Holliston, Massachusetts, on the former estate of Kate Sanborn, a writer who was a contemporary of Emerson and Thoreau. After its purchase the site was completely renovated, and some 500 Negro and white children were accommodated there during their summer vacations. That circumstance shows the interracial character of the House. It is a cardinal principle of Steele's philosophy that Negroes must co-operate with whites, and he has sought, by actual practice, to inculcate this maxim in the Shaw House. With him are associated 10 full-time staff workers, among them may be cited his courteous and efficient secretary, Miss Katherine T. Watson, who was herself educated in Boston; John Shelburne, Dartmouth college graduate and football star who is in charge of athletics; Mrs. Beulah Hester, graduate of Simmons college, in charge of neighborhood work; Mrs. Lucy Mitchell, graduate of Boston university school of education, in charge of the nursery school; Miss Thelma Thornton, graduate of Emerson college, in charge of dramatics; Miss Elizabeth Lewis, graduate of Boston university, in charge of girls' work; James H. Jones, director of boys' work, graduate of Hamp-

(*Continued on next page*)

The Shaw House summer camp at Holliston, Mass.

ton, prominent in the youth section of the National Negro Congress, and Thomas H. Johnson, well-known concert singer, graduate of the New England Conservatory of Music, who serves as director of music. In addition to these are 15 part-time workers and 50 volunteers. The membership is 1500.

Active in many fields

Growth and development cannot ever be said to have "just happened" in an institution like Shaw House. There must be a fairly close co-operation between the community and the institution, and the relations of both must be coordinated by adequate leadership. The Shaw House has always been at the disposal of the community for meetings of various sorts. For that reason, it has been the scene of mass meetings called for the defence of Angelo Herndon and the Scottsboro boys as well as the theatre of less important forms of social activity such as concerts, dances, and pageants. A testimonial banquet was tendered Director Steele last May, when various leaders in Boston's official and social life gathered to do him honor. As evidence of his multifarious contacts one may cite the fact that his Harvard class secretary, the son of a former lieutenant-governor of the state, spoke on a program in which Richard B. Moore, the Negro secretary of the Boston branch of the International Labor Defense, also participated.

His work as treasurer of the City-Wide Boys' Work and as secretary of United Settlements has made him familiar with social conditions in the metropolis and has enabled him to speak about them with a degree of authority inaccessible to the ordinary citizen. As a result of this knowledge he was the first settlement worker invited to speak before the Community Federation established last year.

Sensitive to the needs of the community as he is, Mr. Steele organized the Boston chapter of American Aid to Ethiopia in the fall of 1935 when enthusiasm for the Ethiopian cause was at its height. He actively assisted Lij Zaphiro, the first secretary of the Ethiopian legation in London, on the occasion of that dignitary's visit to Boston, and he was instrumental in raising a large sum for the purchase of medical supplies for the Ethiopian army. As a member of the executive committee of the local branch of the N.A.A.C.P. he personally raised $300 of the $1500 quota, during the membership campaign last May.

Against Fascism

Every resource at his command is always exploited in the interests of enterprises which he deems worthy, and as regional vice-president of the National Negro Congress his influence tends to increase. In his capacity as chairman of the Outer South-End Planning Committee, a subsidiary of the City Planning Board, he is on the advisory committee on housing. As an incorporator and lecturer on sociology of the New England Labor College he has participated in workers' education. Aware of the necessity of a united front of all liberals and progressives against Fascism and war, he aided the peace movement by an address at the Boston Chamber of Commerce on a program with the Rt. Hon. George Lansbury, M.P., former leader of His Majesty's Loyal Opposition in the British House of Commons. As a member of the editorial board of RACE, he assists in the endeavor to counter the anti-Negro propaganda spewed by Fascism.

In face of the facts it is hard to dissociate the personal leadership of Steele from the Shaw House. When he assumed office, the House had just gone through a period of deterioration, which only exceptional ability, such as he manifests, could have banished. Ability and achievement have placed him where he is today—in the vanguard among our younger leaders.

Melody of Death

By W. Thomas Smith

I have heard the beastly roar
  Of a mob gone mad with lust
As it cast a writhing black
  To the flames to burn to dust.
It seemed that even God must hear
  That horrid sound on earth,
That swelling, awful, bloody roar
  Presaging murder's birth;
And above it all the scream,
  And the shrilling, final breath
From out the black, scorching throat—
  The mob melody of death!

NEGRO BALL PLAYERS IN THE BIG LEAGUES

In the April issue, out March 26, The Crisis will have comments from leading daily paper sports editors from all sections of the country on whether Negro players ought to be permitted in major league baseball. We invited about 100 sports editors and we expect about 50 answers. Already replies are in from some of them and the northern as well as the southern editors surprised us. Don't fail to get your copy of the April Crisis.

W. H. Hastie Nominated For Federal Judge

(*See Cover*)

William H. Hastie, of Washington, D. C., assistant solicitor in the Department of the Interior, was nominated by President Roosevelt February 4 to be Federal judge in the Virgin Islands. His name was sent to the Senate for confirmation and as soon as he is confirmed it is expected that Mr. Hastie will go at once to his new post.

Mr. Hastie will be the first Negro appointed to the Federal bench in the history of the country. He is 32 years old and a native of Knoxville, Tenn. From Amherst college he was graduated *magna cum laude* and went on to the Harvard law school where he became one of the editors of the *Harvard Law Review*. His work as assistant solicitor in the Interior Department on Virgin Island matters and other legal problems of the department attracted favorable attention and he was recommended for the judicial appointment by Secretary Harold L. Ickes strictly on merit.

Mr. Hastie has been a member of the faculty of the Howard university law school since his graduation from Harvard. He is also a member of the national legal committee of the N.A.A.C.P. and was one of the chief consultants in the redrafting of the federal anti-lynching law just introduced in the 75th congress. He was, until January 15, a member of the executive committee of the District of Columbia branch of the N.A.A.C.P.

Protective Instinct

By Belle C. Morrill

At four each afternoon,
I wheel my baby to the corner of White Boulevard
And back again;
My sweet brown boy in orange sun-suit clad
Like a new-opening leaf.
At four each afternoon,
The mother who lives on White Boulevard
Wheels out her baby to that same fixed line,
Where white and black are careful not to meet.
Today we met. Sideways we glanced—
And then her child spied mine
And smiled and gurgled all her winsomest.
Solemn, my baby looked at her.
"He's shy with strangers," my lips answered her,
But to myself I said, "Does he already know
That a small brown boy must never smile
At a small white girl—
No matter if she smiles and smiles at him!"

Editorials

Sentiment for Anti-lynching Bill

THE 75th Congress was scarcely a month old before two significant actions gave impetus to the movement for the enactment of a federal anti-lynching bill. The first was the publication on January 31 by the American Institute of Public Opinion of the results of its poll on the anti-lynching bill. It found 70% of the country as a whole in favor of such a bill and only 30% opposed. More startling than the figures for the nation were those from the southern states. These showed 65% of the people in favor of such legislation. Equally surprising is the percentage from small town groups: 75% voting "yes" and 25% voting "no."

The second significant occurrence was the endorsement of the federal anti-lynching bill by the Richmond, Va., *Times-Dispatch*, in an editorial published February 2. By its declaration, the *Times-Dispatch* becomes the first southern daily paper to support in unmistakable language the movement for federal legislation against mob murders. Several papers in the South have leaned toward federal action, notably members of the Scripps-Howard chain, but the Richmond paper brings forth unequivocal language. Some sample sentences:

"The *Times-Dispatch* favors the enactment of the Federal anti-lynching bill. . . It sees no hope of ever wiping out lynching, the greatest crime against southern civilization, except through Federal action. . .

"This newspaper's primary objective is to put a stop to the seemingly endless series of mob murders which have disgraced the South and America before the world. That impresses us as far more important than the preservation of something generally referred to as State sovereignty or State's rights. . ."

But the full significance of the *Times-Dispatch* editorial lies, as the New York *Herald-Tribune* points out, in its removal of lynching as a sectional issue and its treatment of it as a horrible crime. Says the *Herald-Tribune:*

"The editorial in the Richmond *Times-Dispatch* means that lynching is falling from its status as a sectional issue to that of an equally horrible crime, (as kidnapping) appropriate to similar treatment. And that, in turn, means the beginning of the end of lynching."

Perhaps this will mark the beginning of the end of lynching. At any rate, the duty of those who have worked for this legislation throughout the years is plainly indicated. They must press on to see that the 75th Congress passes the federal anti-lynching law.

Give Us Our Share

HEARINGS were held in Washington February 9-11 on the Harrison-Black bill, S.419, which would appropriate from 100 to 300 million dollars annually out of the federal treasury to the states for education purposes. This bill has the backing of the National Education Association and other groups who, perhaps, have not considered the injustices which would be suffered by the Negro if the bill is passed in its present form.

The N.A.A.C.P. and other groups interested in the welfare of the Negro are not opposed to the principle of federal aid to the states for education purposes. It must be recognized, however, that the southern states have separate public schools by law. These schools are supposed to be equal, but everyone knows that to be a joke. Records show that where Negroes are 30% of the school population they receive only about 10% of the school funds. The record in state after state shows gross discrimination against Negro schools in the distribution of state funds, in the distribution of such federal funds as are now received by the states, and in the distribution of state moneys within county and school districts.

There is nothing in the Harrison-Black bill to make the States give the Negro schools their just share of the millions from Washington.

Flood and Housing

DOZENS of lessons of one kind or another have been driven home to the country by the great flood in the Ohio and Mississippi river valleys, but for colored people the chief lesson is certain to be that there must be a change in housing plans for their race.

On every side newspapers proclaimed that Negro residential sections were hardest hit by the flood waters. This wholesale disaster came because cities have segregated Negroes into the least desirable sections—those along railroad tracks, in warehousing districts, in river bottoms. A result of this segregation was seen in the predicament at Louisville when Mayor Miller had to make a special appeal for the housing of Negro refugees by whites. The entire Negro area, including "good" and "bad" homes, was under water, so that no Negroes were in a position to care for unfortunate members of their race.

Twenty years ago the N.A.A.C.P. won its second great victory in the United States supreme court in a case arising in Louisville and involving the very point so tragically brought out by the 1937 flood. The N.A.A.C.P. maintained that Louisville could not pass and enforce a city ordinance defining where Negroes might and might not live. The high court upheld the N.A.A.C.P. lawyers, declaring that such ordinances were unconstitutional. Nevertheless, cities have continued to press Negroes into certain areas by custom and tradition, by cooperation between real estate boards, building and loan associations and banks, and by well-marshalled public sentiment, sprinkled liberally with race superiority buncombe.

Added to all the evidence piled up in the last twenty years the flood of 1937 is proving beyond doubt that the Negro citizen always loses by residential segregation. Lynching mobs go on blood sprees with torch and gun in convenient Negro districts; in time of trouble police and troops swoop down easily, visiting special indignities upon helpless black residents; vice and crime are permitted to flourish under official protection in the Negro quarter; and now, in time of flood, while hardship is visited upon all, almost complete disaster comes to the segregated Negro areas.

Support This Bill

THE congressman from Illinois, Mr. Arthur W. Mitchell, has introduced a bill of tremendous importance to colored people. It is known as H.R. 3691 and provides for the appointment in the civil service of persons making the highest grade in competitive examinations, and denies to appointing officers discretion in passing over the person holding the highest grade. It seems to The Crisis that this bill takes a long step toward rectifying the injustices which have been practiced against Negroes who have passed competitive civil service examinations with high grades. They are passed over repeatedly by appointing officers. One such case came to light in Florida recently where a colored man, highest on the list, had been passed over eight times by the local postmaster.

Mr. Mitchell's bill deserves whole-hearted support from all groups interested in employment opportunities for the race.

Social Justice

(*Continued from page 73*)

every tattered book. The room is heated by a hybrid stove made from a metal tar barrel which was abandoned by the highway department. The long, undulating, stove-pipe has a most terrifying tendency toward collapsing, but just when disaster seems inevitable, the teacher gives it a well-timed poke and our state of agitation is relieved for the moment. Those who sit in the front of the room perspire freely; those in the rear shiver. On a wall so denuded of its plaster as to seem obscene by association, hangs a cheap copy of Millet's "The Angelus," —and, ineffably one senses a groping for something finer which is at once both grand and pathetic. Such are the anomalies of education in a democracy.

The next room serves for all sciences taught here, but particularly for domestic science through virtue of a kitchen stove instead of the "monkey-jumper," and a kitchen cabinet made by the boys in the manual work. Here again we sense the attempt to adapt meagre educational assets to the needs of the group. Colored-chalk drawings of fruits and vegetables border the crumbling blackboards, but the parsley garnished platter seems woefully inadequate when only bare bones grace the middle.

Finally we visit the last room. Herein, sixty-seven children respond to the teacher who leads them as they stumble through the mysterious and awful educational gymnastics supposed to be the fundamentals as learned in the first, second, and third grades. Had it not been snowing, there would have been seventy-five children present between the ages of six and eighteen. In this state, fifty percent of all the Negro children enrolled in schools are in the first and second grades. The answer to this unfortunate condition is partially within our grasp within this room. Overcrowding, irregular attendance, inadequate lighting, heating, and ventilation, and an insufficiency of seats, texts, and teaching materials, are largely to blame. Under such appalling difficulties, a teacher who, more often than not, has had little more than a high school education, is expected to lay the foundation upon which to build character and nurture intelligence in prospective leaders for this underprivileged minority group.

Just a few more lines and the story is done. At least fifty of the students attending this school will have nothing to eat from the time they leave their homes in the morning until they return in the late afternoon. A slim majority of those adolescence who are in the high school grades are transported to their habitations, three to twenty miles away, in a decrepit bus which was discarded by the school authorities for hauling white children. It is now owned and operated by the Negro patrons of the school who keep it in service with great difficulty. The remainder of the children walk distances ranging from less than a mile to eight miles to attend this shambles that must serve this minority race as an agency for our vaunted, *democratic,* institution, Education.

Nevertheless, in spite of all hardship, adversity, and unfair discrimination, these folk manage to discover fleeting rays of sunshine where most of us would perceive only frustration and cause for bitterness. No matter how ragged they are or what little of the bare necessities of life they possess, they still can laugh and be gay. Hence, a little child's friendly smile which greeted a visitor when he entered a room prompted this description which is typical of hundreds of Negro schools in the South.

Small College

(*Continued from page 71*)

he is conscious of the fact that we differ so much in our individuality that the environment that attracts and develops the one may not be the best for the other. At the college age some will prefer the small college, some the great university, and each will get the corresponding advantage from the chosen association. We try to put before the prospective student the characteristics of both and leave with him and with those arranging for his education the responsibility for the choice.

For the Negro youth in America, the possibilities vary in different sections. In the South, he must go to certain institutions. In the North, there is no such legal restriction. On the surface he has the widest opportunity of selecting of any youth of the land. He may go into the South to the university center or the smaller college, he may, in limited numbers, go to the white institutions of the North with their wholly white faculties, or he may go to the few colleges north of the sectional line where under instructors, wholly or in part of his own race, he may pursue his way. In one urge we all unite, that the young man or woman who has the ability should be encouraged and aided to follow some road of preparation through the years that lie beyond the high school. The active world does not need his haste.

Our Hope in Education

It is the well-founded faith of our forefathers that in education lies the hope of the future. It is the road along which we have come to our present position and possibility and outlook. It is the most likely way to the preservation of the desirable elements of the civilization we have built up. While all studies bring out the preeminent positions of leadership occupied by the college-trained person, one can with good conscience stimulate a people who came late before this door of opportunity to press in with all their might. One may again quote the record in the last *Who's Who in America* where 74.73 per cent of the persons listed had been graduated from college or university and 86.56 per cent had entered college walls.

The success of the Negro in intellectual and esthetic fields makes it desirable that he should make his contribution to the life of all peoples. Progress toward a solution of the racial problem in America depends greatly on the rapid building up of a Negro group who can take their places with others of the nation in all fields of human thought and learning and remedy the too one-sided seeking of a way out of our perplexing maze. Nearly all of our colleges for Negroes owe their existence to the Christian religious motive. That philosophy has formed the basis of their effort for mental and moral advance. From the free atmosphere of college or university dedicated to the unrestricted development of the mind and the consideration without prejudice of the problems we face in life, we still hope for light on our way.

The small college invites into its life those who seek and desire to make mind and conscience rather than passion and prejudice the guide of life, who will make their contribution and profit in their own development by the intimate associations that accompany and give charm to our traditional American college life. Of college men of this type, there can be no overproduction unless we believe that ignorance, inefficiency and ugliness are the things to be desired. This training we make accessible with colleges dotting the land and pointing toward the greater university centers that round out the educational opportunity.

For Federal Bill

(*Continued from page 76*)

people gathered, among them many small children. Neal was put to death with the most unspeakable and unprintable tortures. No one was even arrested.

As long as State and local officials are indifferent to these barbarities, they will continue to occur. We see no alternative but to enact a Federal law with teeth in it, and to let the G-men and the Federal courts go into action.

From the Press of the Nation

Editorial of the Month

Cash Counts

***The Call*, Kansas City, Mo.**

THERE is a price tag attached to everything worth having. Health, social improvement and even religion are not to be had for nothing. Many know that who try to shut their eyes on the facts. The result is delay and failure where there could be progress and satisfaction.

Negro schools are not what they could be wherever their patrons do not stand ready to pay either in direct tax, or for court action to compel equality. Paving, sidewalks, water mains and sewage lines for Negro neighborhoods are to be gotten on exactly the same terms as others get them—namely, for cash.

Negro businesses stagger along, half supported wherever they do not make expenditures to create an impression of excellence that commands trade. Negro labor gets less than a fair chance, because it does not spend money for its own opportunity. If you doubt it, consider how a prospective employer would go about gathering a crew of Negro waiters, or gardeners or any other kind of workmen.

The Negro newspaper, the best spokesman Negroes have, cannot be its best self until well supported. Happily the day is gone when any considerable number pretend to be above reading the Negro press. But unfortunately the time has not yet come when all Negroes demand that merchants with whom they spend their money use the Negro newspapers to win their trade.

Money has an eloquence all its own, a fact which all will be wise to realize and act upon.

The federal government should be congratulated in the conviction of Paul D. Peacher (white), of Earle, Arkansas, for violation of the 1866 anti-slave statute. Peacher, the slave owner, was sentenced to two years in the federal penitentiary and fined $3,500 by Federal Judge John E. Martineau.

This conviction could only have been obtained in the state of Arkansas under the scrutinizing eye of the federal government. Slavery in Arkansas has been going on for considerable time under the same process used by Peacher. But the state courts and law-enforcing agencies refused to intervene, and had it not been for the official influence from Washington this case would never have been brought to the attention of the federal courts. . . .—Chicago *Defender*.

Angels of Father Divine are said to have produced nearly $8,000 in New York, last week, to stave off prosecution of charges of contempt of court.

The cult leader had pleaded inability to pay, but a smart lawyer, armed with affidavits that some of his followers had contributed considerable sums, probably convinced Divine's advisers that it was better to pay than to have ex-followers on the stand spilling secrets. . .—*Afro-American*.

In dismissing an action brought by a white landlord for dispossess of a white tenant because he took in a Negro student as a lodger, Justice Joseph F. Capronigi of the Municipal Court had this to say:

"I, personally, may say to you now that in this great country of ours all are entitled to the rights and priveleges guaranteed under the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of New York."

The judge probably had the Negro lodger in mind when he stated his attitude, but his decision is not merely a victory for Negroes, but also one for whites, who are entitled to "life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness." If Jim Crow laws and tactics could be made to interfere more with the normal enjoyment of life by the majority of whites, much of the established discrimination would be pushed into limbo where it belongs.—*Amsterdam News*.

The Jim Crow Scholarship Bill enacted by the last General Assembly of Virginia has resolved itself into a teacher's aid fund bill rather than the bait bill passed by the Virginia solons in their attempt to call off the fight threatened by the N.A.A.C.P. against the barring of Negro Virginians from tax supported state educational institutions. The thirty Negroes who received measly grants aggregating the ridiculous sum of $1,800.00, when compared with the million spent by the state for graduate work for whites, are for the most part public school teachers. . . .

If the Jim Crow Scholarship Bill has any merits at all, and we cannot with candor concede it any, the beneficiaries should be deserving students who want to enter the professions and not persons who are already drawing salaries from the state. . . .—Richmond, Va., *Planet*.

Many sections of the flooded cities have for long needed rebuilding. Slum areas, broken down factories and other blighted sections have customarily occupied the lowlands along the river, and in these areas many colored people of the poorer class have been crowded.

These sections have now either been destroyed or rendered uninhabitable. They will have to be rebuilt or the former inhabitants moved elsewhere. To get the Negroes "out of the bottoms" will bring an appreciable lowering of their sickness and death rates, and a decrease in delinquency and crime. . .—Pittsburgh, Pa., *Courier*.

Each year at this time we commemorate the birth of Frederick Douglass. We say and write nice platitudes about what a great old fellow he was and recall what he did for black America—and then we promptly forget all about the great and illustrious abolitionist until a year hence. . .

We must teach our young people the real spirit of Frederick Douglass, a man who thought of his fellowman first and himself last, always. . .—Boston, Mass., *Chronicle*.

Every American recognizes the United States supreme court as the highest authority on the interpretation of the laws over which it has jurisdiction. On the other hand our state supreme court is the authority on state laws not in conflict with our federal laws.

Little has been heard about arranging the personnel of our state supreme courts to suit the will of the governors of the respective states but if President Roosevelt sets the example with the United States supreme court, it will be a precedent for governors to follow suit. . .—Iowa *Bystander*.

Along the N.A.A.C.P. Battlefront

New Anti-lynching Bill Introduced in Congress

A revised federal anti-lynching bill, which will be known as the Wagner-Van Nuys bill, was introduced in the Senate February 15 by Senator Robert F. Wagner of New York and Senator Frederick Van Nuys of Indiana. This is the bill which will be supported by the N.A.A.C.P. The bill was introduced the last week in January in the House by numerous congressmen at the request of the N.A.A.C.P. At the time of going to press, about 30 identical bills had been introduced in the House. In addition to these, about eleven other bills had been introduced among which was one by Rep. Maury Maverick of Texas.

The Wagner-Van Nuys bill was drawn carefully in order to meet most of the important objections raised during the 74th Congress to the Costigan-Wagner bill, particularly with reference to the constitutionality of federal anti-lynching legislation.

Senator Van Nuys, who joined Senator Wagner in sponsoring this bill, has been a friend of this kind of legislation from the very beginning. He rendered valuable aid to the Costigan-Wagner bill, both in his capacity as a member of the senate judiciary committee and on the floor.

Speaking over a nation-wide net work of the National Broadcasting Company on February 12, Senator Wagner expressed confident belief that the present congress would pass their anti-lynching bill.

There are indications that the bill will have a chance in this congress but its enemies are already preparing to put up a determined fight to prevent it from reaching the floor. Rep. Hatton W. Sumners of Texas, chairman of the house judiciary committee, has already expressed his determination to prevent the bill from being considered. The strategy of those supporting this legislation is to get it through the House first and then through the Senate. All friends of this bill are, therefore, urged to continue writing their congressmen asking them to work for the bill.

Red Cross Promises No Jim-Crow in Flood Zone

Promptly upon the receipt of the news of the great flood in the Ohio River Valley which touched many cities having heavy Negro populations, the N.A.A.C.P. telegraphed the American Red Cross and other government officials who had charge of relief and rehabilitation, urging that no discrimination be shown between colored and white sufferers from the raging waters. The N.A.A.C.P. was assured by Admiral Cary T. Grayson, head of the Red Cross, that there would be absolutely no discrimination.

At first there were reports of discrimination at Louisville, Ky., but later word was received from leading colored citizens in Louisville stating that no difference was being made either by local authorities or the Red Cross in caring for flood refugees.

The N.A.A.C.P. is prepared to send a member of its staff into the flood zone if necessary to check up upon the important work of rehabilitation which began immediately after the rescue work during the flood had ceased. In the meantime, the association has sent out letters to all of its branches in the flood states and to leading colored citizens in key cities asking to be kept constantly advised upon the rehabilitation work being done in local communities in order to nip any discrimination at the very beginning.

As soon as news of the flood was broadcast, J. E. Spingarn, president of the N.A.A.C.P., issued a call to all members and branches of the association to contribute to the Red Cross for the relief of all sufferers.

First Lynching

The first lynching of 1937 occurred February 2, at Abbeville, Ala., when Wes Johnson was killed by a mob, comprised of 25 carloads of people, after he had been accused of attempting to attack a woman. Governor Bibb Graves of Alabama immediately issued a statement calling for an investigation by the Attorney General's office and for impeachment of any officers found to be derelict in the performance of their duties.

On February 7, the Dotham, Ala., *Eagle* carried an editorial in which it stated that there was some doubt in Henry County, where the lynching occurred, of the guilt of Johnson. It appears that this lynching is one more of those numerous ones where the judgment of the mob snuffed out the life of an innocent man.

Poll Shows 70% for Anti-lynching Bill

A poll by the American Institute of Public Opinion, released for publication in Sunday papers, January 31, shows 70% of the country in favor of the enactment of a federal anti-lynching law. The figures in the South show it 65% in favor of such a bill and 35% opposed.

Important assistance for the movement to secure the enactment of an anti-lynching bill was given by an editorial which appeared February 2 in the Richmond, Va., *Times-Dispatch*. This editorial declared unequivocally for the enactment of a federal law saying that lynching would never be wiped out except through federal law.

Branch News

MEETINGS

Race problems discussed. Dean William Pickens, director of branches, addressed the Presbyterian Union of **Newark, N. J.**, January 14, in the South Park Presbyterian church. His subject was, "The Black Man's Burden."

Consider anti-lynching work. The Lynchburg, Va., branch met January 12, at the Jackson street Methodist church. Plans to join the nation-wide fight against lynching were discussed.

Annual meeting held. The **Seattle, Wash.**, branch held its annual meeting in the First African Methodist Episcopal church January 10.

Year's activities discussed. A public meeting in the Frederick Douglass Community Center was held by the **Toledo, Ohio,** branch January 10. An open forum featured the meeting, the subject of discussion being, "Our Children and Our Schools." Speakers were: the Rev. W. Payne Stanley, William T. McKnight, Mrs. Lillian Upthegrove and Mrs. Luckie Spurlock. Others who spoke briefly were: Albertus Brown Conn, the Rev. C. T. Nelson and Clarence L. Thomas. The president, Ernest G. Wade, presided. The program was in the hands of the education committee, whose chairman is Clarence T. Nelson. Vivien Miller and Franklin Perkins sang, accompanied by Marion Smith.

Elect officers. Dr. D. E. Webster was reelected president of the **Springfield, Ill.**, branch at a meeting held January 12 at the Urban League. Others reelected are: Simeon B. Osby, Jr., vice-president; John H. Wilson, secretary; and Tully Bailey, treasurer.

Arrangements for the annual Lincoln-Douglass banquet to be held February 12, are in charge of Mrs. Alma Webster, Mrs. Marie Sublett and Mrs. Anna Robinson. Mrs. Alice Taborn was appointed chairman of the anti-lynch fund committee.

Commemorate proclamation. The **Pine**

Bluff, Ark., branch of the N.A.A.C.P. celebrated the issuance of the emancipation proclamation in a New Year's meeting at St. John A.M.E. church. The address was delivered by the Rev. W. M. Eason. The proclamation was read by Miss Helen Burns of the Arkansas State college. Ruth Biggs Perkins was the pianist for the musical program given by St. John's and other choirs. The devotion was conducted by the Rev. W. H. Wiley.

W. B. Cloman, president; M. A. Parker, secretary; and L. C. Stevens, chairman; make up the executive committee.

Watch trial. The **Pueblo, Colo.,** branch will watch the trial of Willis Wynn, accused of murdering Isador Schwartz, but will take no part in the defense. This position was decided on at the regular meeting of the organization on January 3.

All officers and the executive committee were reelected. They are: R. C. Martin, president; E. E. Hall, vice-president; Romeo Winston, secretary; W. A. Holley, treasurer. The executive board members are: the president and Ed Williams, Richard Biffle, B. V. Maloney, the Rev. H. A. Rogers, Mrs. Ruth Snow, J. L. Armstead, Romeo Winston, A. J. Bettis, H. H. Coates, W. A. Holley, Mrs. W. A. White, E. E. Hall and the Rev. Theodore R. Jones.

Plans for a membership campaign were discussed. Theodore R. Jones was selected to direct it under the auspices of the junior work committee.

Criticizes inactivity. The January meeting of the **Chester, Pa.,** branch was enlivened by the remarks of William Grasty, once an executive committee member, who took the branch to task for "spineless inactivity and general lack of purpose." Exception to his remarks was taken by Dr. F. L. Brody, vice-president, and others. E. Carter Grasty is president.

Open forum held. The feature of the meeting of the **Tacoma, Wash.,** branch held on January 17 at the Bethlehem Baptist church was an open forum. The public was invited. The Youth Council met the day before at the home of Mrs. N. J. Asberry.

Woman's auxiliary meets. Mrs. E. L. Powell gave a talk at the meeting of the woman's auxiliary of the **Charleston, W. Va,.** branch on January 24. The members gathered at the home of Mrs. Cornelia Wright to hear the speaker lecture on "The Negro's Contribution to the Theatre."

Discuss plans. The **White Plains, N. Y.,** branch heard the Rev. Roscoe C. Ward of Port Chester at its meeting held January 17 in the Bethel Baptist church. Plans relating to the N.A.A.C.P. Legal Defense fund work and in pushing the anti-lynching bill were discussed. The six weeks' membership drive was also considered.

Lectures heard. The **Davenport, Ia.,** branch held an open forum January 17 at the Third Baptist church. The program included a talk on "The Evil of Selfishness" by Edwin Watkins; one by Russell W. Smith on "The Need of Justice"; songs by a chorus and a discussion of the work of the branch and the N.A.A.C.P. and of the youth council. There was also a lecture by Mrs. Cornelia Morrison. The president of the branch is N. Taggart.

Annual meeting held. The **Seattle, Wash.,** branch held its annual meeting January 10 in the First African Methodist Episcopal church.

Report year's activities. The **Birmingham, Ala.,** branch secretary, Dr. Charles A. J. McPherson, reports the following as part of the year's work during 1936: a letter of protest with a photograph of a Mississippi lynching was sent to the president; 98 similar letters of protest with pictures of Mississippi's double lynching at Columbus were sent each senator; letters and telegrams were sent to the President and officials of the National Housing Project protesting the alterations and eliminations in the Smithfield Housing project; the branch has cooperated with the Scottsboro Defense committee; the spring membership drive was conducted by S. L. Belle, manager of the Protective Industrial Insurance Co.

Advisory Board elected. Russell W. Jelliffe, chairman of the nominating committee of the **Cleveland, Ohio,** branch, reports the following officers elected for the ensuing year: president, Chester K. Gil-

Deacons and pastors of Olivet Baptist church, Chicago, joined the N.A.A.C.P. 100%. Front row, left to right: W. R. Ramsey, F. D. Evans. Morris Williams, Dr. L. K. Williams, the Rev. J. H. Branham, J. Wallace, J. T. Carothers, William Square; second row: D. W. Kelley, G. J. Scott, Judge William H. Harrison, J. B. Webb, C. H. Peterson, T. P. Hines, S. C. Beach, D. R. Tyler, William Beasley; third row: E. S. Calloway, B. Roullac, H. Moore, H. Stocks, J. W. Taylor, C. Woodward, E. W. Rankins, W. J. Young, A. W. Thompson, S. A. Griffin, chairman; fourth row: William Smedley, G. W. Taylor, L. Means, Irvin Clark, E. P. Eastman, J. E. Jordan, J. Montgomery, H. Thompson, H. E. Henderson.

lespie; first vice-president, Mrs. W. P. Hilton; second vice-president, John W. Dowden; secretary, Nettie O. Pierce; assistant secretary, Alice O. Greene; treasurer, Edward Jackson.

Members of the executive committee are: Miss Eleanor Alexander, Miss Grace Caver, Mrs. Hortense M. Davis, Russell H. Davis, Dr. Armen G. Evans, Elmer O. Fehlhaber, Ormond A. Forte, Dr. Charles H. Garvin, Clayborne George, Hon. Marvin C. Harrison, Hon. Bradley Hull, Russell W. Jelliffe, H. C. Jones, Dr. Raymond P. Keesecker, James P. Kirby, John W. Love, Mrs. Lillie Mason, Norman L. McGhee, Albert Miles, Miss L. Pearl Mitchell, George Palda, David H. Pierce, Crosby C. Ramey, Dr. Lawrence P. Schumake, Mrs. Arthur Scott, Gordon H. Simpson, Arthur L. Taylor, William O. Walker, the Rev. M. F. Washington, Charles W. White.

The advisory board members are: Alfred Bosch, Rabbi B. R. Brickner, Septemus Craig, Harry E. Davis, Miss Betty Foster, the Rev. J. Otis Haithcox, the Rev. Ernest Hall, Samuel Handelman, Mrs. Emma Hogan, Keith Lawrence, the Rev. Wade H. McKinney, Hon. Daniel E. Morgan, Lawrence O. Payne, Clarence Rhodes, Mrs. Genevieve D. Storey, Kingsley A. Taft, Curtis C. Garvin.

Present play. The Junior work committee of the **Pueblo, Colo.,** branch gave a play and variety program at the Knights of Pythias hall on January 22. The play, "Too Much Matrimony" was directed by Theodore R. Jones. Following the program there was a musical and social hour.

Install officers. At a dinner party prepared by Robert Brown, assisted by a committee, the **Decatur, Ill.,** branch installed officers, January 20. The ceremony took place in the Staley clubhouse. Talks by Charles Livingston, E. H. Dansby and Charles Thompson followed the dinner. Games and cards were played and there was dancing.

W. H. Hammon was master of the ceremony. The new officers are: President, L. J. Winston; first vice-president, Edward Jacobs; second vice-president, C. L. Livingston; secretary, Mrs. Marie Baker; assistant secretary, Mrs. Alice Caldwell; Mrs. E. H. Dansby. The executive board members are: E. H. Dansby, Mrs. Sally Chaney, Mrs. B. T. Bond, Miss Jo Van Dyke, Dr. J. C. Ellis, Charles Thompson, Joel Motley, M. L. McClerkin.

The **Suffolk, Va.,** branch had a special meeting, January 30 at St. Mark's Episcopal church.

Install Officers. The **Galesburg, Ill.,** branch held a meeting, January 20, at the home of Mrs. Chaney Nelson to install new officers. The ceremony was conducted by G. G. Fletcher.

Plan membership drive. The **Winston-Salem, N. C.,** branch met January 24, at St. Paul's M. E. church to plan the annual membership drive. The campaign opened February 12.

Monthly meeting held. The **Kansas City, Kan.,** branch held its regular monthly meeting, January 17, at the First A. M. E. church. Miss Frances Williams, a member of the board of directors of the N.A.A.C.P. was the guest speaker. A musical program was given by Mrs. W. R. Wilson and Mrs. Clarence Glass.

The **Syracuse. N. Y.,** branch met in St. Paul's M. E. church January 24. L. D. Campt is president.

Give spaghetti dinner. The Ladies Auxiliary of the **Morristown, N. J.,** branch gave a Spanish spaghetti dinner at the home of Mrs. Sarah Stoutenburgh, January 22.

Chorus sings. The **Akron, Ohio,** branch held a meeting February 3 at Second Baptist church. Dean Pickens addressed the meeting. The Coleridge-Taylor chorus sang and the Ohio Wonders, radio team gave an entertainment. A. A. Andrews, state president installed the new officers. Samuel T. Kelley was a speaker. Rev. R. A. Jones gave the benediction. The new officers are: Hosea Lindsey, president; Mrs. F. Allen, vice-president; Miss S. Fleming, secretary, and Mrs. Marguerite Crawford, treasurer. Dean Pickens also spoke to the women's group and at a meeting of the Exchange Club.

The **Youngstown, Ohio** branch met February 1 at the W. Federal Street "Y."

Elect officers. The **Nashville, Tenn.,** branch held its annual election of officers January 29 at Lee Chapel A.M.E. church. The president, W. S. Walker urged all members to attend.

The **Beacon, N. Y.,** branch met February 9 in the home of Mrs. Jane Catskill. Miss Elizabeth Chappelle, president, presided.

Hold entertainment for Lincoln-Douglass celebration. The **Media, Pa.,** branch had a meeting February 9, at Trinity A.M.E. church in observance of Lincoln-Douglass day. An entertainment was provided and a speaker addressed the gathering.

The **Rahway, N. J.** branch met February 8, at the Dunbar Community Center.

Director speaks. The **Alliance, Ohio,** branch met February 5 at St. Luke's A.M.E. church. A lecture was given by William Pickens, director of branches of the N.A.A.C.P. Lymos Sparks presided. Mrs. K. T. Thompson is secretary of the branch.

Director of branches lectures. Three hundred people heard William Pickens lecture at a meeting of the **Akron, Ohio,** branch, February 3. The Rev. R. A. Jones gave the invocation and the Coleridge-Taylor Chorus and the Five Spirits of Rhythm sang.

Concert and dance. The **Duluth, Minn.,** branch gave a banquet concert and dance in Camel's hall on Lincoln's birthday anniversary.

The musical program included selections by the Duluth Civic band under the direction of Mike Leone, songs by J. P. Erickson and a special number by Franklin Cox of the federal band.

New officers are: R. T. Simmons, Lee Wiley, Henry Williams, Mrs. C. Dozier, G. Hall, George Adams, Frank Franklin, William Chaney, Mrs. M. Gates, Mrs. Josephine Brown, Mrs. R. T. Simmons, James Albright and Mrs. D. Nichols.

Judge addresses branch. The **Cleveland, Ohio,** branch heard Judge Armond W. Scott of the District of Columbia municipal court on January 11. The branch is waging a campaign to have a colored man placed on the bench in Cleveland.

Plan for Detroit conference. The **Media, Pa.,** branch in its estimate of expenditures for this year, has included expenses for two delegates to the annual conference at Detroit in June. The secretary, C. I. Moat, reports that the branch raised $691.47 during 1936. Of this amount, entertainments grossed $458.36.

Officers re-elected. An audience which taxed the capacity of the National Theatre meeting room re elected the present officers of the **Wilmington, Del.,** branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People on January 12 and listened to the status of several phases of the civic activities for the Negro of Wilmington. John O. Hopkins, Jr., was chairman of the program committee which presented Frank Betz of the staff of the Ferris Industrial school, Charles Priest, representing the Boys' Center at 8th and French Streets, and John O. Hopkins, Sr., member of the City Council.

Favorable response was made to participation in the sale of anti-lynching buttons from February 1 to February 12 for the benefit of the Legal Defense Fund of the association. George Smith, of 201 E. 10th Street, was appointed chairman of the local campaign committee.

The officers unanimously re-elected are: the Rev. Arthur R. James, president; A. G. B. Anderson, vice-president; Miss Pauline A. Young, secretary; and Miss Gertrude J. Henry, treasurer. The committee chairman appointed are: John O. Hopkins, Jr., for the membership and the legislative committees; Miss Young for the publicity; William C. Lewis for meetings and educational committee; Mrs. Horace Lawson, a newcomer from Indianapolis, Ind., for junior work; J. A. Gardiner, finance and Mrs. P. Rozellia O'Neal for entertainment committee.

The next regular meeting of the branch will be held on Tuesday evening, February 9.

Install officers. The **Jersey City, N. J.,** branch of the N.A.A.C.P. installed its officers for 1937 at a tea on January 17, in the House of Friendliness of the Y.W.C.A. Mrs. Ida E. Brown, chairman, presided. The audience sang the national anthem, the invocation was given by the Rev. Chas. S. Freeman, and a solo was sung by Miss Mamie Ethridge.

The work of the branch was described in the form of a dialogue given by Mrs. Ida E. Brown, chairman of membership; Mrs. Julia F. Townes, corresponding secretary; and Mrs. Elsie Robinson.

The guest speaker was Miss Juanita Jackson. Tea followed the program and a good collection was taken up. The new officers are: the Rev. E. P. Dixon, president; Dr. James R. Stroud, first vice-president; the Rev. E. J. Hardge, second vice-president; Mrs. Rosa Frazier, third vice-president; Mrs. Julia F. Townes, corresponding secretary; and E. J. French, treasurer.

CHRISTMAS SEAL SALE

Reports on the sale of Christmas seals will be in the April issue in some detail. The 1936 sale raised more money than any previous sale and all those units which have not made complete reports are urged to do so by March 5 so they will appear in the April issue.

CAMPAIGNS

Buttons sold on street corners. The **Toledo, Ohio,** branch conducted a sale of "Stop Lynching" buttons, February 6. The buttons were sold on street corners and in the residential sections. Headquarters were opened with Mrs. Francis Bruce Wade as chairman of the campaign. William T. McKnight, vice-president, and Mrs. Faye Love Foster, secretary, assisted her. A dance on February 13, closed the drive. Other workers assisting the committee were:

Mrs. Jesse S. Heslip, Mrs. Stephen K. Mahon, Mrs. William T. McKnight, Mrs. Harrie Chamberlain, Mrs. Luckie Spurlock, Mrs. Sydney Vinnedge, Esther Huckins, Mrs. J. Nathan Hobbs, Mrs. Anna Singleton, Mrs. Charles Fabin, Mrs. Sue Snow, Catherine DeWeise.

Mrs. James G. Burnap, Bessie Feyton, Mrs. Rosemary Featherstone, the Rev. Austin Bork, Ann Eithbert, Miss Roger Williams, Mrs. Howard Pooley, Joseph Doneghy, Jr., the Rev. J. H. Jenkins, Louis Canada, Dr. J. N. Hobbs, Clarence L. Thomas, Judge Lee N. Murlinson, Mrs. Paralee Evans, Amy Palmer, Enoch Waters, C. G. Smith, William Jones, Claudia Pitts, Myrtle Gross.

Mrs. Ollie Randolph, Wilma Cudsia, Charles Clarke, Ivan Swan, James Burgette, John James, Mrs. D. A. Wilson, Mayme Duffy, W. C. Fox, The Rev. Harlan Frost, Dr. Raymond L. Hill, J. B. Simmons, W. E. DuBois, Jerry Hobbs, Frank Saunders and Albertus Conn.

Mayor buys first button. The mayor of **Springfield, Mass.,** was the first one to buy a "Stop Lynching" button, in the branch's campaign to sell 2,500 buttons. Churches and civic organizations aided the campaign in which Dr. Edna Martin, vice-president, Miss Edith Griffin and Alford H. Tavernier were leaders.

Aid button sale. The **Aliquippa, Pa.,** branch conducted a campaign to sell 500 buttons from February 1 to February 12.

Mass meeting starts campaign. The **Philadelphia, Pa.,** branch had a mass meeting, January 31, at the First African Baptist church. The speaker was William Pickens from the N.A.A.C.P. The meeting launched the campaign to raise money for legal defense through the sale of buttons.

Begin membership drive. A campaign for new members was launched by the **Freeport, Ill.,** branch at a meeting January 22 in St. Paul's Baptist church. A mixed chorus from three churches provided a program of songs and there were short talks by officers of the branch and visiting ministers from various churches. H. Goins is president of the branch and Mrs. E. Dallas is secretary.

Name campaign committee. The **South Bend, Ind.,** branch has selected a committee to promote a publicity campaign on the evils of lynching. The members are: Robert Watt, Miss Madeline Price, Miss Betty Jane Roberts, Edmund Smothers, Maskell Tandy, John Frazier and Charles H. Wills.

Dinner opens membership drive. The campaign for new members in the Rochester, N. Y., branch was managed by the Rev. David Rhys Williams of the Unitarian church. It started with a dinner at the Gannett House of the Unitarian church on February 4 and continued through Negro History Week.

30,000 seals sold. The **Baltimore, Md.,** branch has sold 30,000 Christmas seals under the chairmanship of Mrs. Florence Snowden. In the button campaign they have distributed 5,000 buttons under the direction of Mrs. Fannie Howard.

Circulate literature. The **Portsmouth, Ohio,** branch circulated literature to raise legal defense funds. James Sadler was in charge of the distribution and Mrs. Helen Fleming directed the work of the youth council in the drive.

Membership drive. The **Atlanta, Ga.,** branch launched its campaign for new members January 25, with a goal of 3,000 memberships. The drive ended February 12. Miss Hattie V. Feger, an instructor at Atlanta University, was general chairman of the campaign.

Confer with congressmen. The **Halifax county, Va.,** branch of the N.A.A.C.P. wound up its membership campaign with a program at the Mount Olive Baptist church, South Boston, Va., on December 20. Alonzo Chavious was in charge of ceremonies. The music was furnished by the church choir, the B. T. Washington high school chorus accompanied by Miss Brown, and the Men's Excelsior Glee Club of Halifax. A solo was sung by George Plenty. Prof. C. A. Crocker, principal of Booker T. Washington high school, read the scriptures; G. A. Womack gave the invocation. Dr. D. Vincent Estwill, president of the association, introduced the speaker, the Rev. C. Nathaniel Hawk, pastor of Loyal Baptist church at Danville. The appeal for new members was made by Mr. Crocker, the collection appeal was made by Dr. L. W. Smith and Deacon J. H. Bratcher. The Halifax Glee Club was directed by Prof. W. C. Edwards, principal of Halifax Training school. Reports of members were given, followed by the benediction.

A committee was appointed to keep in touch with Congressman T. G. Burch, concerning matters of interest to the branch. The members are: Prof. C. A. Crocker, the Rev. I. J. Gamble, J. S. Carrington, secretary; the Rev. William Grant of the executive board; Paul Duncan and S. R. Johnson, chairman. The first conference with the congressman was held December 26 on the federal anti-lynching bill.

EDUCATION

Crisis editor speaks. The Toussaint L'Ouverture club of Hunter college, New York City, was addressed by Roy Wilkins, assistant secretary of the N.A.A.C.P., and editor of The Crisis, December 6. Mr. Wilkins drew attention to some of the educational inequalities existing in the separate school system of the South and sketched the work of the N.A.A.C.P. generally.

On December 13 Mr. Wilkins spoke to the Sunday evening meeting of the Young Peoples Society of the First Presbyterian church of New York City and on that afternoon he addressed the Problems of Democracy class of Hunter College high school, New York.

Sponsor National Negro History Week. The **Jamaica, N. Y.,** branch observed Negro History Week with a varied program. A committee of 100 leaders of the community cooperated with the branch, headed by Dr. John A. Singleton, chairman of the program committee.

On Sunday, February 7, speakers from the committee visited the 25 colored churches of the community. An art and literature exhibit was opened Monday by Arthur Schomburg. On Tuesday, the Youth Council was in charge of the program with Miss Estella Williams presiding, and a dramatic sketch was given by Fred Hogan. Wednesday a musical concert was the feature. A Lincoln-Douglass celebration was held on the twelfth, preceded by a motor parade with banners

(Continued on next page)

Annual dinner of the Boston, Mass., branch February 5 at which Walter White was the principal speaker

and police escort in the afternoon. The address was delivered by Bishop David H. Sims, for four years bishop of South Africa.

Miss Elizabeth Johnson, vice-president of the branch, spoke on the "Purpose of National Negro History Week." The chairman of the general committee, James N. English, presided.

Sunday, the fourteenth, Interracial Day, was celebrated when Negro ministers and other speakers addressed the congregations of white churches. The branch was given time, free of charge, over radio stations WEVD, WMCA, WOR and WINS.

Demand representation on school board. The Baltimore, Md., branch is fighting for representation on the school board and for better schools for handicapped children. They are also asking the legislature to have the State Reformatory School for colored boys turned over to the state. At present it is operated under private ownership.

In the county high school case the branch has taken an appeal from the lower court decision to the appellate court.

Oppose school bill. Elisha Scott, president of the **Topeka, Kans.**, branch called a special meeting of the directors on January 19 to study a state bill relating to the erection of colored high schools. The bill was introduced by Representative Towers and authorizes cities of the first class maintaining separate schools for white and colored children to build high schools for colored students. The president declared the bill tends to promote race segregation.

Apprised of this Mr. Towers has promised to withdraw it and substitute another intended to meet the special need of Kansas City to rebuild a colored high school which has been in use for more than 30 years.

Schools follow N.A.A.C.P. program. The Cuyler Junior High and Beach High schools of **Savannah, Ga.**, celebrated National Education and National Health week by following the program of the N.A.A.C.P. for their observance.

DISCRIMINATION

Sponsor civil rights bill. Three Negro organizations are backing a civil rights bill in the Oregon legislature. E. J. Minor, president of the **Portland, Oregon,** branch, is chairman of the group that is sponsoring the bill.

End segregation. The new county sheriff of **Cleveland, Ohio,** has pledged himself to rid the jail of all types of discrimination and segregation. He has promised that prisoners will be mixed and separated according to their records. Seven Negroes have been appointed as his aides, more than any predecessor has ever named.

Give legal aid. The president of the **Oklahoma** branch of the N.A.A.C.P., Roscoe Dunjee, attended the hearing of Robert Holland before the criminal court of appeals. He had been sentenced to death for the murder of a policeman. The branch is giving legal aid on the ground that the jury was prejudiced because the defendant was a Negro.

On the same docket was the appeal of a woman from a ten-year sentence for the slaying of her husband.

Fight residential discrimination. The **Baltimore, Md.**, branch is making a test case of an injunction to move, issued against a colored minister who bought a home in a block where white people live. The surrounding neighborhood is colored, but if a majority of white people in a given block object, Negroes cannot live there, according to the Baltimore courts. The ministry has pledged its support to raise funds for the appeal.

Watch rape case. The branch is watching the case of a white man charged with kidnaping a 14-year-old colored girl and criminally assaulting her. The child noted the license number of the man's car and the man was apprehended and charged with rape.

WPA segregation investigated. The president of the **Uniontown, Pa.**, branch, Mrs. E. L. D. Connors, has been assured there would be no further segregation in the local WPA sewing project. Mrs. Connors interviewed the superintendent of employment and was told that segregation would not be established as a policy. The branch was asked to cooperate and told that any complications that arose would be adjusted.

PERSONALITIES

The secretary of the **Media, Pa.**, branch attended the annual meeting of the N.A.A.C.P. held at the national office January 4.

The president, Walter A. Gordon, of the **Alameda County, Calif.**, branch addressed the Linden branch of the Y.W.C.A. January 15.

The Present Day Club of Princeton, N. J., heard Walter White, secretary of the N.A.A.C.P., at its meeting at the clubhouse on January 13. Mr. White spoke on "The Race Problem in New Jersey." Tea was served after the lecture.

A testimonial banquet to Lorenzo Harris, prominent Democratic leader of Monmouth county, N. J., was given January 22 at the Asbury Park armory. Mr. Harris has contributed paintings and drawings to The Crisis and has been a leader in civic projects thoughout the county. He has been the leader in fighting discrimination in schools and other places. He studied at the Philadelphia Academy of Fine Arts, winning honorable mention citations. He has been a director of the junior branch of the N.A.A.C.P.

Congressman Thomas F. Ford, Democrat of California, who forced the anti-lynching bill through committee entanglements last session, has introduced a similar measure in the present Congress.

Dr. William Lloyd Imes, a member of the board of the N.A.A.C.P., was the guest speaker at a luncheon of the Women's Inter-church Council of Scarsdale, N. Y., on Feb. 19.

The **Providence, R. I.**, branch contributed $5.00 to flood relief sufferers.

The **Wilmington, Del.**, branch made a contribution to flood relief.

Mrs. William Pickens, wife of the director of branches of the N.A.A.C.P. will lead another study group to Europe from July 3 to September 3. Mrs. Pickens led similar groups to Europe in 1930 and 1932.

Mrs. Homer S. Brown of the **Pittsburgh, Pa.**, branch of the N.A.A.C.P. is a member of a state committee which is to select three Negro students of outstanding ability to receive scholarships at the University of Pittsburgh. The money has been appropriated by the state.

LABOR

Study farm problems. The **Birmingham, Ala.**, branch, under the direction of the president, Dr. E. W. Taggart, made some studies among farmers to aid the committee on farm tenancy. The Alabama members of President Roosevelt's committee made their report the early part of February.

PROTESTS

Protest police brutality. The **Washington, D. C.**, branch of the N.A.A.C.P. and 27 other organizations have demanded an investigation of police brutality. The request for an inquiry into the killing of 40 colored persons by policemen in ten years was laid before the District Commissioners on January 12. Charles Edward Russell, chairman of the District Interracial committee, is an outstanding figure in the drive for official action.

Cake Sales Raise $915 for N.A.A.C.P.

A check for $25, sent to the N.A.A.C.P. after the holidays by Mrs. Louise Davis of Cleveland, brought her total contribution to the association to $915. This amount was raised through the baking and sale of fruit cakes by Mrs. Davis in the holiday season each year, extending from Thanksgiving to Christmas.

Some years ago Mrs. Davis, who is the wife of Harry E. Davis, member of the national board of directors of the N.A.A.C.P. and former civil service commissioner of Cleveland, decided that merely to contribute her husband's money in her own name to the association's work would give her little personal satisfaction. Her skill at making fruit cakes had been praised by her friends and she hit upon the idea of selling these cakes each year and contributing to the N.A.A.C.P.

She has not been spectacular about it and has refused, good naturedly but firmly, even to have her picture made. Year in and year out she has sent checks for varying amounts until she is now nearing the thousand dollar mark. Originally, she started out to purchase a life membership—$500—but she long ago passed that mark. Her name is one of the twenty on the bronze placque in the national office indicating a fully paid up life membership.

Mrs. Davis takes no special credit for her work and says that she believes it demonstrates what many hundreds of people could do for the association if they would select one particular activity and persist in it year after year.

A Prayer

By S. Ralph Harlow

Create in us the splendor that dawns when hearts are kind,
That knows not race or color as boundaries of the mind;
Teach us to value beauty, in heart, or brain, or soul,
Help us to bind God's children into one perfect whole.

N.A.A.C.P. Youth Council News

First Youth Anti-lynching Demonstration Great Success

On February 12, youth councils, college chapters, senior branches and cooperating organizations staged the first nation-wide youth demonstration against lynching.

From 6:15 to 6:30 p.m., Eastern Standard Time, over the National Broadcasting System, Senator Robert F. Wagner, of New York, co-author of the Wagner-Van Nuys anti-lynching bill, spoke on "The Lynching Problem Viewed on Lincoln's Birthday."

In the large key cities of the country, Chicago, Cleveland, Indianapolis, Detroit, New York City, Baltimore, Richmond, Nashville, Birmingham and Atlanta, and in many of the smaller communities, rousing demonstrations were held. On the college campuses of Lincoln, Fisk, Morgan, Pennsylvania State, Howard, Bates, Houston College for Negroes, Bishop, Wilberforce, Shaw, Morehouse, Dillard, Spelman, Morris Brown, Allen, Benedict and West Virginia State student demonstrations were held.

There were three purposes of the demonstration: (a) to raise the united voice of youth in protest against lynching; (b) to mobilize public opinion behind the federal anti-lynching bill; (c) to raise funds for carrying on the fight.

A feature of the demonstration was the wearing of black armbands as a dramatic sign of mourning for all of those victims who have been lynched.

In New York City under the auspices of a United Youth Committee Against Lynching, composed of 183 religious, civic, social, fraternal, educational and medical organizations, a mammoth mass meeting of over 2,500 persons was held at the Mother A. M. E. Zion church in Harlem. Among the speakers were: Angelo Herndon, Walter White, Allan Knight Chalmers, and A. Clayton Powell, Jr. Preceding the demonstration, a "No More Lynching" parade was held.

In Chicago, the youth council staged a big parade through the Loop section in the afternoon, and wound up with a big mass meeting at the Good Shepherd church. Every person at the mass meeting sent a post card to Washington demanding passage of the federal anti-lynching bill. An art exhibit was an added feature of the Chicago demonstration.

At the St. James A. M. E. Zion church in Cleveland, the youth council held a huge protest mass meeting. The play "Scottsboro Limited" by Langston Hughes was dramatized.

Special Counsel Charles H. Houston was the featured speaker at the Baltimore, Md., youth council's mass meeting, while Assistant Special Counsel Thurgood Marshall spoke to the Poughkeepsie, N. Y., youth council mass meeting which was largely attended by Vassar College students.

The Central Youth Council of Detroit held a local radio broadcast and a huge mass meeting.

The colleges held stirring student demonstrations. At Howard University Thursday, February 11, at eleven a.m., all classes were suspended and Walter White spoke at a large student mass meeting. Richard Hurst Hill was the presiding officer.

Talladega held a one-week celebration of Negro History Week, climaxing with an outdoor demonstration against lynching in front of the chapel around the flag pole with the flag at half-mast.

For further details of demonstrations see individual reports of youth councils and college chapters.

On to Detroit!

"On to Detroit!" is the cry one hears on the lips of youth members of the Association these days. The attention of youth councils and college chapters is being focused on the 28th annual conference to be held in the great industrial city from June 29 to July 4. It is there that the youth members will hold forth in their second national youth conference as the youth section of the annual conference.

From every section of the country, from the farms, the factories, the churches, the social clubs, the high schools, the colleges, from every type of occupation, from every type of interest group—they will come, the youth members of the Association to their second national youth conference.

For what purpose? To face the problems which confront them, to analyze the methods of approach which have been used during the last year, and to strengthen the national youth program of action which was launched at their first youth conference in Baltimore last June.

It is in Detroit that reports will be made of the great national youth activities conducted by the Association during the year 1936-37, i.e., the nation-wide series of youth mass meetings protesting educational inequalities on November 12, 1936, and the first national youth demonstration against lynching

(*Continued on next page*)

Detroit sells Christmas seals: left to right: Helen White, Willya Lacey, chairman of the sales committee, Don Redman, popular band leader, in the role of the willing victim, and Katherine Tinsley

on February 12, 1937. In addition individual youth councils and college chapters will make reports of their local activities and progress.

It is hoped that the rapid growth and development of youth units of the Association will be evidenced by the attendance of at least 500 youth delegates. Already youth members are conducting fund-raising activities for the conference. Brooklyn, N. Y., youth council is preparing for a big dance in April. Poughkeepsie and Albany, N. Y., youth councils have already raised some of their conference monies from benefit dances. Down in Alabama, the Talladega college chapter is preparing to raise funds through several campus activities.

We're all headed for Detroit.

HONOR ROLL

The United Youth Committee Against Lynching of New York City finds a place on the Youth Honor Roll this month. Under the leadership of Dorothy Height, chairman, 183 youth organizations combined to put over a great demonstration for the passage of the federal anti-lynching bill. Over 2,500 persons attended the mass meeting and participated in the "No More Lynching" parade.

YOUTH COUNCIL NEWS

Lansing, Mich. The Youth Council held an anti-lynching mass meeting February 12. Two hundred young people wore black armbands, and cooperated with the senior branch in the sale of buttons.

Marion, Ind. An excellent start in the button campaign was made by the Youth Council. They ordered 1,000 buttons and held an anti-lynching banquet at the Y.W.C.A. on February 12. Representatives from the Youth Council were sent to all of the churches in the city to make known the plans and program of the anti-lynching demonstration.

Jersey City, N. J. On February 12 the Youth Council held a mass meeting at the Metropolitan A.M.E. Zion church. Mr. David Cannon, of Cranford, N. J., spoke on "The Fury of the Mob." Armbands were worn, buttons were sold and funds were raised to send telegrams to Washington upon the introduction of the federal anti-lynching bill by Senator Wagner.

Poughkeepsie, N. Y. "The outlook is brighter than ever before for the passage of the federal anti-lynching bill," were the words of Attorney Thurgood Marshall of the national office, who spoke to the Youth Council's mass meeting against lynching on February 12. A great number of Vassar College students attended the meeting. Miriam Magill, the secretary, reports excellent progress in the sale of buttons.

Cleveland, Ohio. Under the leadership of energetic Bob Williams, the Youth Council included some salient facts about lynching and the history of the N.A.A.C.P.'s fight in the Youth Council's call to their anti-lynching demonstration. Dr. Raymond Keesecher and the Rev. W. H. McKinney were the principal speakers at their mass meeting held at St. James A.M.E. church on February 12. Langston Hughes's play, "Scottsboro Limited," was dramatized by the dramatic group of the Youth Council. Pearl Mitchell, senior adviser, gave splendid cooperation as usual.

Chicago, Ill. The Youth Council sponsored a dramatic "No More Lynching" parade on the afternoon of February 12, through the famous Loop business district. Buttons were sold, literature distributed, and armbands worn. In the evening, a mass meeting was held at the Good Shepherd church. Four young people participated in a panel discussion on lynching. Attorney Irvin C. Mollison, president of the Illinois State Conference of Branches, was the featured speaker. Cornelia McNeal was the brilliant chairman of the demonstration. Willard Eubanks is president, and Mrs. Jeanette Jones, adviser.

St. Louis, Mo. One thousand armbands were distributed by the Youth Council and now the group is completing the sale of 500 buttons. Loretta Owens is the new president of the Youth Council.

Pittsburgh, Pa. A local radio broadcast was held by the Youth Council February 12. The council is cooperating with their adviser, Mrs. Henry Kennedy, who is chairman of the senior branch's "Stop Lynching" button committee, in the sale of buttons.

Johnstown, Pa. The Youth Council secured the largest church in Johnstown for their mass meeting on February 12. The Rev. Terry was the main speaker. The local unit of the boy scouts turned out in full.

Mobile, Ala. Helen D. Williams, the secretary of the Youth Council, reports great success with the sale of anti-lynching buttons.

Richmond, Va. The Youth Council held a mass meeting at the Leigh street Methodist church on February 11. The Rev. S. C. Stevens, Attorney J. Bryon Hopkins, and Professor John M. Moore, of Virginia Union university, gave a three-way discussion of lynching. Naomi Wilder, the president, gave a resume of the Youth Council's activity since organization. The Youth Council ordered 2,000 buttons and the senior branch is cooperating in the sale of buttons.

Detroit, Mich. Under the dynamic leadership of Gloster Current, the council held a huge mass meeting on February 12. They ordered 5,000 buttons and are busy at work making a record-smashing sale of buttons as they did in the sale of seals.

Indianapolis, Ind. The Youth Council has been in the midst of flood refugee work. In spite of that, they held a mass meeting on February 12 and are busy winding up their sale of buttons.

Newark, Ohio. A committee from the senior branch cooperated with the Youth Council in putting over a great demonstration. Dr. A. S. Burton is adviser of the group. Mrs. Barbee Durham, recently appointed pharmacist at Ohio State university, and Miss Evelyn Leins, department head of the Old Age Pension Bureau, a graduate of Miami university, were the featured speakers at the mass meeting.

Columbus, Ohio. Under the leadership of H. Stratton Hopson, the Youth Council is gaining momentum and getting underway. The group ordered 500 anti-lynching buttons and is selling 50 magazines a month.

Muskogee, Okla. The Youth Council dared to sell 50 "Stop Lynching" buttons in the prejudiced community of Muskogee. Under the leadership of S. Watson Jennings, the Youth Council is making a detailed study of the Wagner-Van Nuys federal anti-lynching bill.

Orange, N. J. The senior branch president, Inez Patterson, gave the Youth Council every cooperation in staging their demonstration on February 12. They presented the WPA play, "Brother Mose," on February 2, to start off the button campaign. An open meeting was held on February 12, preceded by a motor calvacade advertising the demonstration.

Albany, N. Y. The Youth Council is holding its demonstration on February 18.

New Rochelle, N. Y. The Youth Council held its demonstration at Bethesda Baptist church, with Herbert L. Wheelem, the Rev. Robert Hartley, and Bishop C. C. Alleyne as the main speakers.

Charleston, W. Va. The Youth Council members have been busy caring for 1,500 flood refugees who were brought from Huntingdon. Both Negro schools were filled with cots. The Council is completing the sale of 5,000 buttons.

El Paso, Texas. Under the leadership of Mrs. Rosa B. Williams, a strong youth council has been organized. This group has applied for its charter and is ready for real activity.

Organize council. The **Winston-Salem, N. C.,** branch held a meeting at St. Paul M. E. church November 29. Dean William Pickens was the principal speaker. A youth council group was tentatively organized.

Thanksgiving party. Mrs. Lester W. Graddick and Dr. Louis B. Baxter were guests of honor at a Thanksgiving party of the junior N.A.A.C.P. branch of **Morristown, N. J.,** at the home of Clifford Burton.

Mrs. Graddick organied the junior group. Dr. Baxter is president of the senior branch.

The characters were selected for the play to be presented by the youth council and plans were made to present a musical and literary program at the December meeting of the Women's Society of the First Baptist church.

Select officers. The **Brockton, Mass.,** youth council elected officers for the coming year at a recent meeting. They are: Ernest Solomon, president; Miss Evelyn Brooks, vice-president; Warren Mallery, treasurer; Miss Varena Eskew, recording secretary; Ernest Mayers, corresponding secretary, and Miss Ruth Hilliard, assistant secretary. Winifred Gabrouel, Augusta Christiani, Ella Kersey, Harrison Baker, Ralph Marrow, and Robert Mallory compose the executive committee.

COLLEGE CHAPTERS

Houston College for Negroes, Houston, Tex. The college chapter, under the leadership of Roy Leeland Hopkins, held a great student demonstration on February 12. Buttons were sold, armbands were

worn, and anti-lynching literature was widely distributed.

Morgan College, Baltimore, Md. The college chapter heard Attorney Charles H. Houston speak at their student demonstration against lynching on February 12.

Talladega College, Alabama. The college chapter, under the leadership of William Boyd, observed Negro History Week, climaxing with a campus-wide outdoor student demonstration against lynching on February 12.

Bates College, Lewiston, Maine. Bill Sutherland, former president of the Montclair, N. J., Youth Council, is now a freshman at Bates. He was successful in organizing through the Christian association, a campus-wide student demonstration against lynching.

Morris Brown College, Atlanta, Ga. Clarence Griffith has gathered 100 students in his college chapter. They held an unusual demonstration against lynching February 12.

Allen University, Columbia, S. C. Richard B. Martin, president of the college chapter, worked vigorously to put over their demonstration on February 12.

Morristown College, Tenn. The president of the college, Dr. John W. Haywood, distributed 200 buttons among his students and 100 armbands were worn on February 12.

Honor Graduate

CONNIE JONES

One of the highest honor graduates of Townsend Harris high school in New York City in the mid-year class will be Connie Jones, 18-year-old son of Mrs. Jane Jackson, 252 West 149th street. It is true that colored honor graduates of high schools and colleges are no longer exceptional news; there have been many of them. But there is something special about Connie Jones' case.

In the first place Townsend Harris is no ordinary high school. It is the high school of the College of the City of New York and is under the jurisdiction of the state board of higher education. Only a picked student body is allowed to attend. It is selected by a special examination given only to the elementary school graduates in the higher scholarship brackets. From these who take the examination only 500 are admitted each half year. The present enrollment consists of 1,300 students of which only 14 are colored.

In this fast company Connie Jones is finishing in two and one-half years. He will be given the honor medal for scholarship. Aside from making class records in scholarship, Connie has been a leader in school activities. He was a member of the class council for one term; a member of the school council for two terms; a member of the championship debate team for one term; secretary of the French club; president of the General Organization of students; was elected by the senate of the school as president of Arista, the honor society; and served as head of the traffic department of the school.

Before he entered Townsend Harris Connie was an honor student at Public School 139 where he was graduated with a grade of 100 per cent in all his subjects. He has been employed for three years by Dr. Ernest A. Alexander, eminent New York skin specialist. After finishing Townsend Harris Connie hopes to enter the College of Agriculture at Cornell University. He is deeply interested in rural education and especially farm cooperatives and plans to settle eventually in Virginia.

Southern Schools

(*Continued from page 74*)

is still interesting. When I left the University of North Carolina, I visited a private school for Negroes, headed by a white man, with a mixed faculty. There, before the hour for my chapel address, I received a very polite note from a colored officer of the faculty, at the president's suggestion, perhaps, informing me that at their assembly they "always have only an educational talk." I would not run out on that excellent and expectant student body, of course; and so, without inquiring just what is "educational," I stuck the note into my pocket and said what I pleased. We had a wonderful time; and even the jittery president afterwards handed out some slightly lefthanded compliments.

Later at another white college in North Carolina, a private institution maintained by a religious organization, I met a similar open door to thought, as at the state university.

All-Negro Schools Better

The "bravest" colored schools, to put it that way, proved to be the private colleges headed by all-Negro faculties, where the president was of good courage. At one such college for Negro girls I met a group comparable in most respects to a group of girls in Smith College, of Massachusetts. But the Negro girls were a bit less inclined to delve into the more ticklish questions of race relations than are the Smith College girls. This timidity is due to their pre-college training, for the president of their school opened his arms to thought and speech. So there is more fear in American colored than in American white institutions of learning, but, *mirabile dictu,* the greatest fear of all is in the white leaders of the schools for Negroes.

As should be expected, the public school system offers less liberty of thought than the private schools, and the smaller and more local the school, the more restricted is the liberty. The Negro state school is, therefore, somewhat in advance of the local public schools. And a Negro public school headed by white principal and teachers is the last word in "nerves." The Negro principal may try to influence what you may say, or like the white heads of some of the Negro private institutions he may ease a word over to you through one of his "stooges," but the white head of a Negro public school in the South does not try to influence the speech of a stranger; he prevents it. He invites only those whose lingo and limitations are well known, and who can compress the most words into the fewest ideas.

Education in school is no mere learning of facts. Very few facts are ever learned in school, and most of them are soon forgotten. Education is the inspiration of a soul and the creation of a skill for dealing with facts. Therefore, any institutional leadership that dares only to stuff with facts and formulas, while discouraging or preventing thinking, discussion and dispute, is the least educative leadership.

Racialism a Myth

"Racialism is a myth and a dangerous myth at that. It is a cloak for selfish economic aims which in their uncloaked nakedness would look ugly enough. And it is not scientifically grounded. The essence of science is the appeal to fact." —From "We Europeans," by Julian Huxley.

Book Review

FROM HARLEM TO THE RHINE; The Story of New York's Colored Volunteers by Arthur W. Little. Covici-Friede, New York. $3.00.

In more than one of its aspects, this is the best book about the World War that has appeared in America. Its first challenge to the sympathy and interest of every reader is unescapable. From the brief explanatory note preceding the title to the end of the last page, there is such forthright sincerity as seldom refreshes any reader. An absolutely pellucid sincerity, a plain, unadorned, unparaded purpose to tell the exact truth and exactly the great drama that passed before the eyes of one keen and analytic observer—a kind of manifest honesty that sets up at once an intimate relation with the narrator.

Next, there is an unstudied and native mastery over narrative rather astonishing in an author's first book, an author who is also a business man at the head of a vast establishment. Where Colonel Little gained this easy facility in story telling, I know not, but there it is throughout his book. The first page starts you off with a human interest account of the forming of the famous Fifteenth New York (colored regiment) the enlisting, drilling and camping, the sailing for France, the arrival there, and then page after page of astonishing achievements till one grows breathless with interest, and perceives in the war a kind of latter-day Odyssey and gathers a new respect for the possibilities of this human frame in endurance and courage.

For beyond all this, Colonel Little is the first white man to put into a book the plain record of the actual contributions of the American Negro soldier to the triumph and glory of this country. It is no forced pipe of eulogy that he sounds; he deals only with the record and what with his own eyes he saw on the great western front. Almost without comment, always without coloring, he sets forth the astonishing things that happened; a body of men recruited at han-hazard; so slightly trained that old-fashioned experts thought they could never stand aligned in a battle, and yet performing these daring deeds as if they were veterans and undergoing without complaint all but incredible hardship.

Incidents, abound, told always in the same fresh, unpretentious, effective way. Some of them are truly of an Homeric proportion. One day under a heavy fire, Colonel Little, then the captain of Company F of the regiment, was with another officer lying prone and watching the exploding shells. The other officer had been married just before he left America and had now a photograph of his wife and the little boy baby he had never seen. He took it from his breast pocket and lay ogling it. Then he tossed it over to Little and asked if that were not the picture of a beautiful boy. As Little was examining it, there came the hideous shriek of a shell, it landed exactly between them and both closed their eyes expecting instant death. But the shell proved a dud and did not explode. By a miracle saved from instant annihilation, Little threw back the photograph to the proud young father, who said:

"Thanks, yes, I think it's lovely, too," and put it in his pocket.

Then there is the amazing story of Henry Johnson, the Albany railroad station porter, who fought single-handed twenty-three German soldiers and beat them all. Wounded in his terrific struggles, when it was all over they started him for the hospital:

"Henry Johnson looked up at me and motioned that he had something more to say. I knelt at his side.

"'Suh, Cap'n, Suh,' said the wounded hero, in a low, husky voice, but with an indescribably gentle smile, 'Suh, Cap'n, Shu, you all doan' want er worry 'bout me. Ah'm all raght. Ah've been shot beefo'!'"

Some of the incidents are amusing, some have such a deep-seated touch upon human sympathy that they are difficult to read without an equally profound emotion. So terrible were the sufferings of the starving French people that in one of the towns the people sorted over the refuse from the kitchens of the Fifteenth to pick up scraps of food. You should read what a colored prize fighter of the Fifteenth has to say about this heart-rending sight and his reaction to it.

Step by step Colonel Little follows the adventures and triumphs of these unheralded heroes. The regiment was 193 days under fire, lost many men in dead and wounded only, took many prisoners, was never defeated, went through to the end of the war, was crowned and laurelled by the grateful French, and when all was over, marched up Fifth Avenue amid thunderous cheers. They, the black regiment, had shed a new luster upon American history and vindicated once more their right absolute to be citizens of the Republic.

And that is the sobering fact about this remarkable book, the fact that these men who served their country with such unequalled devotion, courage, sacrifice, efficiency, belong to their country's pariahs, not to its citizenry. At the beginning, against the mere suggestion that colored Americans should be allowed to fight, should be anything but drudges and menials and serfs, old nit-wit Prejudice protested. And when a few men like Colonel Little had forced through some recognition of their rights and they had in this marvelous fashion justified every confidence in them, behold old Nit-wit still refusing to acknowledge the nation's debt to its bravest soldiers.

But if they have been in their own country the victims of this jungle psychology, the broader-minded and greater-hearted French have atoned so far as they could for the injustice. Who can read without emotion with what kindness the French people, long emancipated from this color delusion, took to their bosoms their darker skinned champions? Who can unmoved read the extraordinary tributes to Negro efficiency from great French commanders, Gouraud, Chabaud, Galais, and others? The first American soldiers to win the croix de guerre were colored men; the first American unit to be decorated for bravery was a colored unit.

It is a wonderful story. The telling of it ought to be forever the ample rebuttal of detraction and the poignant reproach of prejudice. And on the shelves of every man who perceives the absurdity of race divisions and hopes for justice and the universal brotherhood should be "From Harlem to the Rhine," an unequivocal testimony of faith.

CHARLES EDWARD RUSSELL

PREFACE TO PEASANTRY by Arthur Raper. 423 pp. University of North Carolina Press, Chapel Hill, N. C. $3.50.

The "forty acres and a mule" promised the freedmen after the Civil War has been a long time in coming. Now, seventy years later, the families white and black who work in cotton are being discovered by the public conscience. They have found their way into a president's message to Congress and there is promise of federal legislation pointed toward justice for cotton tenant families.

Arthur Raper's study of cotton farmers in two Georgia Black Belt counties is timely. The fact that "Preface to Peasantry" is the result of a research study should keep nobody from the satisfaction of reading it. It is no inanimate compilation of facts and figures. The account has the three dimensions of realism and the fourth of insight and generous outlook. From this accurate description of conditions and behavior the meanings needed for the defining of public policy emerge.

This book about Greene and Macon counties, Georgia, is the fruit of a study begun in 1927 under the auspices of the Georgia Committee on Interracial Cooperation and supplemented in 1934 by an investigation of New Deal activities in those counties. The report as it appears in "Preface to Peasantry" has a broad and general significance. While it discusses only two counties, it describes a condition which is at the heart of the economic problem of the South and the problem of race relations. These counties are typical of the two hundred Black Belt counties which Arthur Raper describes as the "seed bed of the South's people and her culture. Human relations in Atlanta, Birmingham, Montgomery, Memphis, New Orleans, and Dallas are determined largely by the attitude of the people of the Black Belt plantations from which many of their inhabitants, white and Negro, came."

In this story we see how the process of setting white and Negro workers against each other works. We also see how labor is kept cheap by pitting urban labor against rural labor. And we see the vicious circle of an economic system which produces a low cultural level among Negro cotton workers which is in turn used to rationalize the perpetuation of a sub-human status for Negro people, South and North.

By this time practically everybody knows that the average cotton tenant farmer has too little to eat and wear, probably a leaky cabin, no margin for health and education, and little hope for improvement. The book documents these general impressions with the most depressing of cold facts. We learn, for example, that the rural white families in Greene county averaged a cash income of $301 during 1934, while Negro rural families averaged $150. Negro wage hands on Greene county plantations in 1934 received a cash income of $86.

But of more significance than actual income figures are the trends reported. There is a steady tendency toward sliding down the tenure ladder from owners to renters to croppers to wage hands. Foreclosures have been most numerous among the larger farmers on the better land. Ownership has been more stable among smaller farmers on poorer land, especially among those owners near towns where supplementary employment is possible. The plantations have been breaking up and the tendency is toward small farming on a "secure but very low plane of living." This trend suggested the title of the book. "North European peasantry has its background in feudalism; the emerging American type, in the plantation system. The European peasant had been a sub-peasant, a feudal serf; the emerging American peasant too, is a sub-peasant, but it does not necessarily follow that his plane of living will also be improved."

This is the question which "Preface to Peasantry" leaves to those who read. The careful description of how cotton farming works, of the nature of landlord-tenant relations, of how the racial factor operates to condition the whole system, of the workings

of the New Deal and the meaning of population movements, of the social institutions that have grown out of the system, gives a well articulated description of what is. In addition the document is an effective appeal to the will to act. The description, for example, of the Negro mother's heavy load, could leave no reader complacent. It is to be hoped that this book will receive so wide a reading in both the North and South as to substantially decrease the complacency of all of us.

ELIZABETH B. HERRING

LETTERS from READERS

Do Lynching Pictures Create Race Hatred?

TO THE EDITOR OF THE CRISIS:—I believe that posters or newspaper cuts of victims of mob violence swinging from trees and telephone poles are gruesome spectacles to be flashed in the face of the civilized public. Yet, it is truthfully depicting news, regardless of how unsavory to public conscience. The pictures of the victims of banditry, kidnapping, rape and murder when killed are wire-photoed with a flash to the public at large. Then why not the victims of mob violence who chance to be Negroes? If the details of a crime committed are depicted in all of its horrors, why not do likewise when the perpetrators of the crime are subjected to brutal mob violence in defiance of the law?

Two thousand years ago Jesus Christ, the son of God, the redeemer of mankind and the Saviour of the world, swung from a rugged cross on Calvary's brow as a victim of mob violence. But regardless of the why and what of the case, that picture is gruesome to look upon. But in millions of homes and public buildings you will find this picture of the mobbed Christ.

As distasteful as the present day lynching pictures are to me, I nevertheless believe the general public should be fed upon it until its conscience is aroused to the point of being willing to dispose of it through Federal legislation as near as it is possible for it to do.

W. W. CURTIS

Cleveland, Ohio.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE CRISIS:—Your Mid-West correspondent who believes lynching pictures stimulate lynching does not understand psychology.

The best defense against a social wrong is a strong offense. To fight lynching, every available means of publicity must be employed.

Any policy of timidity is a defeatist policy. Your unnamed critic is offering dangerous advice. It must be ignored.

DAVID H. PIERCE, Chairman
Public Relations Committee
American Federation of Teachers

Chicago, Ill.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE CRISIS:—I venture to send my comment on your article "Do Lynching Pictures Create Race Hatred?" merely to swell the numbers of those who voice disagreement with the opinions of the gentleman who protested against such publications.

If there is one method more than another calculated to arrest attention, whether from the indifferent or the uninformed, it is the "object lesson." Outside the groups of the prejudiced, the enthusiasts or the bigots, is the innumerable army of people who either do not know or do not care about the question of race prejudice, with all its poisonous concomitants.

Picture-writing catches the eye as the printed word cannot hope to do, witness the growth in popularity within recent years of the pictorial tabloid.

From every talk I have ever shared on the subject of our colored underprivileged, one element remains insistent—most people do not know, and take no means of informing themselves of the true condition. A picture seen or described gets under their skin as no argument can.

Until the daily journals publicize lynchings as they do other "thrilling news" I trust the colored press and periodicals will avoid the soft pedal.

EMILY E. F. SKEEL

Brooklyn, N. Y.

Praises White's Speech

TO THE EDITOR OF THE CRISIS:—Because he had the manhood to drag the hideous monster of inequality, injustice and segregation into the open, Walter White, secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, became the outstanding speaker at the Colored Conference held in Washington, D. C. He gained the admiration and respect of all his auditors, even those who bitterly opposed his aims. His protest against jimcrowism reminded one of immortal William Monroe Trotter in action against "segregation which degrades."

Declaring that colored people "must stop trembling, compromising and playing Uncle Tom," he urged the delegates to support a set of recommendations that would "eliminate jimcrowism from the United States." In this connection he suggested that the conference should strongly support the movement for a Federal anti-lynching law, a civil rights act for the District of Columbia and other Federal territory—insuring colored people equal accommodations with white in public places; a bill prohibiting the placement on ballot of any candidate of a party that violated the Fourteenth Amendment and a bill prohibiting discrimination against any race, creed and color regarding employment in any Federal office. "This conference marks a new day in the relationship between the colored group and the Federal government," Mr. White continued. "Our chance has come at last to remove the barriers and burdens of inequality, insecurity and injustice that have confronted and hindered us for years."

Mr. White's speech should be printed in full in the next issue of THE CRISIS.

LLEWELLYN LEWIS

Chicago, Ill.

Editor's note: THE CRISIS and Mr. White thank Mr. Lewis for his recommendation, but Mr. White did not speak from a manuscript in Washington and his text therefore, is not, available for printing.

Thank You

TO THE EDITOR OF THE CRISIS:—Enclosed you will find money order for a two (2) years' subscription to your wonderful magazine.

Again I say congratulations! May you continue to merit compliments.

BRUCE T. WEAVER

Marion, Ind.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE CRISIS:—Please find enclosed my check for $2.50 for the special two years' subscription.

I always find The Crisis interesting, but the December number is particularly good with its article on the condition in Spain and its news of the "Big Time Football Stars."

BETSY B. DAVIS

Pearl River, N. Y.

Good Work

TO THE EDITOR OF THE CRISIS:—The Elizabeth branch of the N.A.A.C.P., discovering that THE CRISIS is not among the reading matter in the public library in our city, approached the management and requested them to include THE CRISIS among their magazines read.

The enclosed letter is in response to our effort.

Please send copy of THE CRISIS to the Elizabeth Public Library every month and charge same to the Elizabeth branch.

J. T. DAVIS, M.D.

Elizabeth, N. J.

TEN CENT CIGARETTES SEEK NEGRO TRADE

Two brands of ten-cent cigarettes, Marvels and Twenty Grand, are making a bid for Negro patronage by advertising in some of the Negro newspapers.

The leading fifteen-cent cigarettes put out by the huge tobacco companies have consistently ignored the Negro market and have refused to place any advertising whatsoever in Negro publications. These big companies spend millions of dollars annually on all kinds of advertising, but they make no special appeal to Negro purchasers.

It is estimated that if the Negro public would use some discrimination in the purchase of cigarettes, it is possible that a total of perhaps $100,000 for advertising might be spent in Negro newspapers and magazines by the manufacturers of the new ten-cent cigarettes and by the big companies who now make no special effort to get Negro trade.

America, Heed Our Cry

By MARK FISHER

We love this country's free yet biased soil
So fertilized with blood of servitude
Drawn from our backs as we were bent in toil.
Crushed from our limbs by hands so vilely crude.
Yet when we heard the cruel cry of war
We did not hesitate to heed its call,
But sallied forth in alien fields afar
That peace and freedom might endure for all.
But while our blood was being shed abroad,
At home our brothers' necks were being stretched
Across a limb while Christians cheered and roared
To see their hate in death so grimly sketched.
A stigma on this nation's mighty name—
America, you must remove this shame!

New Anti-Lynch Bill

(*Continued from page 72*)

decedent. Any judgment or award under this Act shall be exempt from all claims of creditors.

(3). Any judge of the United States District Court for the judicial district wherein any suit shall be instituted under the provisions of this Act may by order direct that such suit be tried in any division of such district as he may designate in such order.

Section 6. The essential purpose of this Act being the furtherance of protection of the lives and persons of citizens of the United States and other persons against unlawful and violent interference with or prevention of the orderly processes of justice and equal protection and due process of law, and against possible dereliction of duty in this respect by States, or any governmental subdivision thereof, or any officer or employee of either a State or governmental subdivision thereof: if any particular provision, sentence, or clause, or provisions, sentences or clauses, of this Act or the application thereof to any particular person or circumstance, is held invalid, the remainder of this Act, and the application of such provision to other persons or circumstances, shall not be affected thereby.

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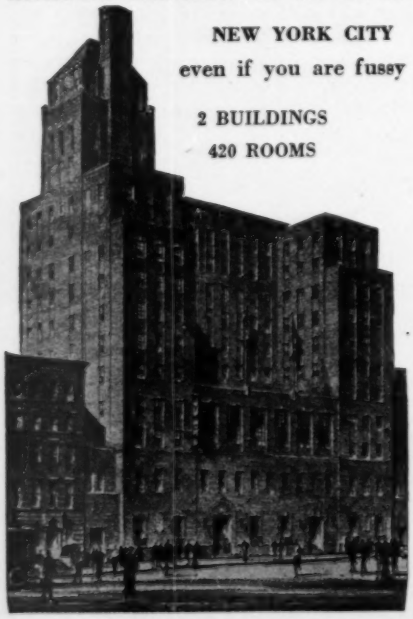

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Book Review

FROM HARLEM TO THE RHINE; The Story of New York's Colored Volunteers by Arthur W. Little. Covici-Friede, New York. $3.00.

In more than one of its aspects, this is the best book about the World War that has appeared in America. Its first challenge to the sympathy and interest of every reader is unescapable. From the brief explanatory note preceding the title to the end of the last page, there is such forthright sincerity as seldom refreshes any reader. An absolutely pellucid sincerity, a plain, unadorned, unparaded purpose to tell the exact truth and exactly the great drama that passed before the eyes of one keen and analytic observer—a kind of manifest honesty that sets up at once an intimate relation with the narrator.

Next, there is an unstudied and native mastery over narrative rather astonishing in an author's first book, an author who is also a business man at the head of a vast establishment. Where Colonel Little gained this easy facility in story telling, I know not, but there it is throughout his book. The first page starts you off with a human interest account of the forming of the famous Fifteenth New York (colored regiment) the enlisting, drilling and camping, the sailing for France, the arrival there, and then page after page of astonishing achievements till one grows breathless with interest, and perceives in the war a kind of latter-day Odyssey and gathers a new respect for the possibilities of this human frame in endurance and courage.

For beyond all this, Colonel Little is the first white man to put into a book the plain record of the actual contributions of the American Negro soldier to the triumph and glory of this country. It is no forced pipe of eulogy that he sounds; he deals only with the record and what with his own eyes he saw on the great western front. Almost without comment, always without coloring, he sets forth the astonishing things that happened; a body of men recruited at han-hazard; so slightly trained that old-fashioned experts thought they could never stand aligned in a battle, and yet performing these daring deeds as if they were veterans and undergoing without complaint all but incredible hardship.

Incidents, abound, told always in the same fresh, unpretentious, effective way. Some of them are truly of an Homeric proportion. One day under a heavy fire, Colonel Little, then the captain of Company F of the regiment, was with another officer lying prone and watching the exploding shells. The other officer had been married just before he left America and had now a photograph of his wife and the little boy baby he had never seen. He took it from his breast pocket and lay ogling it. Then he tossed it over to Little and asked if that were not the picture of a beautiful boy. As Little was examining it, there came the hideous shriek of a shell, it landed exactly between them and both closed their eyes expecting instant death. But the shell proved a dud and did not explode. By a miracle saved from instant annihilation, Little threw back the photograph to the proud young father, who said:

"Thanks, yes, I think it's lovely, too," and put it in his pocket.

Then there is the amazing story of Henry Johnson, the Albany railroad station porter, who fought single-handed twenty-three German soldiers and beat them all. Wounded in his terrific struggles, when it was all over they started him for the hospital:

"Henry Johnson looked up at me and motioned that he had something more to say. I knelt at his side.

" 'Suh, Cap'n, Suh,' said the wounded hero, in a low, husky voice, but with an indescribably gentle smile, 'Suh, Cap'n, Shu, you all doan' want er worry 'bout me. Ah'm all raght. Ah've been shot beefo'!' "

Some of the incidents are amusing, some have such a deep-seated touch upon human sympathy that they are difficult to read without an equally profound emotion. So terrible were the sufferings of the starving French people that in one of the towns the people sorted over the refuse from the kitchens of the Fifteenth to pick up scraps of food. You should read what a colored prize fighter of the Fifteenth has to say about this heart-rending sight and his reaction to it.

Step by step Colonel Little follows the adventures and triumphs of these unheralded heroes. The regiment was 193 days under fire, lost many men in dead and wounded only, took many prisoners, was never defeated, went through to the end of the war, was crowned and laurelled by the grateful French, and when all was over, marched up Fifth Avenue amid thunderous cheers. They, the black regiment, had shed a new luster upon American history and vindicated once more their right absolute to be citizens of the Republic.

And that is the sobering fact about this remarkable book, the fact that these men who served their country with such unequalled devotion, courage, sacrifice, efficiency, belong to their country's pariahs, not to its citizenry. At the beginning, against the mere suggestion that colored Americans should be allowed to fight, should be anything but drudges and menials and serfs, old nit-wit Prejudice protested. And when a few men like Colonel Little had forced through some recognition of their rights and they had in this marvelous fashion justified every confidence in them, behold old Nit-wit still refusing to acknowledge the nation's debt to its bravest soldiers.

But if they have been in their own country the victims of this jungle psychology, the broader-minded and greater-hearted French have atoned so far as they could for the injustice. Who can read without emotion with what kindness the French people, long emancipated from this color delusion, took to their bosoms their darker skinned champions? Who can unmoved read the extraordinary tributes to Negro efficiency from great French commanders, Gouraud, Chabaud, Galais, and others? The first American soldiers to win the croix de guerre were colored men; the first American unit to be decorated for bravery was a colored unit.

It is a wonderful story. The telling of it ought to be forever the ample rebuttal of detraction and the poignant reproach of prejudice. And on the shelves of every man who perceives the absurdity of race divisions and hopes for justice and the universal brotherhood should be "From Harlem to the Rhine," an unequivocal testimony of faith.

CHARLES EDWARD RUSSELL

PREFACE TO PEASANTRY by Arthur Raper. 423 pp. University of North Carolina Press, Chapel Hill, N. C. $3.50.

The "forty acres and a mule" promised the freedmen after the Civil War has been a long time in coming. Now, seventy years later, the families white and black who work in cotton are being discovered by the public conscience. They have found their way into a president's message to Congress and there is promise of federal legislation pointed toward justice for cotton tenant families.

Arthur Raper's study of cotton farmers in two Georgia Black Belt counties is timely. The fact that "Preface to Peasantry" is the result of a research study should keep nobody from the satisfaction of reading it. It is no inanimate compilation of facts and figures. The account has the three dimensions of realism and the fourth of insight and generous outlook. From this accurate description of conditions and behavior the meanings needed for the defining of public policy emerge.

This book about Greene and Macon counties, Georgia, is the fruit of a study begun in 1927 under the auspices of the Georgia Committee on Interracial Cooperation and supplemented in 1934 by an investigation of New Deal activities in those counties. The report as it appears in "Preface to Peasantry" has a broad and general significance. While it discusses only two counties, it describes a condition which is at the heart of the economic problem of the South and the problem of race relations. These counties are typical of the two hundred Black Belt counties which Arthur Raper describes as the "seed bed of the South's people and her culture. Human relations in Atlanta, Birmingham, Montgomery, Memphis, New Orleans, and Dallas are determined largely by the attitude of the people of the Black Belt plantations from which many of their inhabitants, white and Negro, came."

In this story we see how the process of setting white and Negro workers against each other works. We also see how labor is kept cheap by pitting urban labor against rural labor. And we see the vicious circle of an economic system which produces a low cultural level among Negro cotton workers which is in turn used to rationalize the perpetuation of a sub-human status for Negro people, South and North.

By this time practically everybody knows that the average cotton tenant farmer has too little to eat and wear, probably a leaky cabin, no margin for health and education, and little hope for improvement. The book documents these general impressions with the most depressing of cold facts. We learn, for example, that the rural white families in Greene county averaged a cash income of $301 during 1934, while Negro rural families averaged $150. Negro wage hands on Greene county plantations in 1934 received a cash income of $86.

But of more significance than actual income figures are the trends reported. There is a steady tendency toward sliding down the tenure ladder from owners to renters to croppers to wage hands. Foreclosures have been most numerous among the larger farmers on the better land. Ownership has been more stable among smaller farmers on poorer land, especially among those owners near towns where supplementary employment is possible. The plantations have been breaking up and the tendency is toward small farming on a "secure but very low plane of living." This trend suggested the title of the book. "North European peasantry has its background in feudalism; the emerging American type, in the plantation system. The European peasant had been a sub-peasant, a feudal serf; the emerging American peasant too, is a sub-peasant, but it does not necessarily follow that his plane of living will also be improved."

This is the question which "Preface to Peasantry" leaves to those who read. The careful description of how cotton farming works, of the nature of landlord-tenant relations, of how the racial factor operates to condition the whole system, of the workings

of the New Deal and the meaning of population movements, of the social institutions that have grown out of the system, gives a well articulated description of what is. In addition the document is an effective appeal to the will to act. The description, for example, of the Negro mother's heavy load, could leave no reader complacent. It is to be hoped that this book will receive so wide a reading in both the North and South as to substantially decrease the complacency of all of us.

ELIZABETH B. HERRING

LETTERS from READERS

Do Lynching Pictures Create Race Hatred?

TO THE EDITOR OF THE CRISIS:—I believe that posters or newspaper cuts of victims of mob violence swinging from trees and telephone poles are gruesome spectacles to be flashed in the face of the civilized public. Yet, it is truthfully depicting news, regardless of how unsavory to public conscience. The pictures of the victims of banditry, kidnapping, rape and murder when killed are wire-photoed with a flash to the public at large. Then why not the victims of mob violence who chance to be Negroes? If the details of a crime committed are depicted in all of its horrors, why not do likewise when the perpetrators of the crime are subjected to brutal mob violence in defiance of the law?

Two thousand years ago Jesus Christ, the son of God, the redeemer of mankind and the Saviour of the world, swung from a rugged cross on Calvary's brow as a victim of mob violence. But regardless of the why and what of the case, that picture is gruesome to look upon. But in millions of homes and public buildings you will find this picture of the mobbed Christ.

As distasteful as the present day lynching pictures are to me, I nevertheless believe the general public should be fed upon it until its conscience is aroused to the point of being willing to dispose of it through Federal legislation as near as it is possible for it to do.

W. W. CURTIS

Cleveland, Ohio.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE CRISIS:—Your Mid-West correspondent who believes lynching pictures stimulate lynching does not understand psychology.

The best defense against a social wrong is a strong offense. To fight lynching, every available means of publicity must be employed.

Any policy of timidity is a defeatist policy. Your unnamed critic is offering dangerous advice. It must be ignored.

DAVID H. PIERCE, Chairman
Public Relations Committee
American Federation of Teachers

Chicago, Ill.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE CRISIS:—I venture to send my comment on your article "Do Lynching Pictures Create Race Hatred?" merely to swell the numbers of those who voice disagreement with the opinions of the gentleman who protested against such publications.

If there is one method more than another calculated to arrest attention, whether from the indifferent or the uninformed, it is the "object lesson." Outside the groups of the prejudiced, the enthusiasts or the bigots, is the innumerable army of people who either do not know or do not care about the question of race prejudice, with all its poisonous concomitants.

Picture-writing catches the eye as the printed word cannot hope to do, witness the growth in popularity within recent years of the pictorial tabloid.

From every talk I have ever shared on the subject of our colored underprivileged, one element remains insistent—most people do not know, and take no means of informing themselves of the true condition. A picture seen or described gets under their skin as no argument can.

Until the daily journals publicize lynchings as they do other "thrilling news" I trust the colored press and periodicals will avoid the soft pedal.

EMILY E. F. SKEEL

Brooklyn, N. Y.

Praises White's Speech

TO THE EDITOR OF THE CRISIS:—Because he had the manhood to drag the hideous monster of inequality, injustice and segregation into the open, Walter White, secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, became the outstanding speaker at the Colored Conference held in Washington, D. C. He gained the admiration and respect of all his auditors, even those who bitterly opposed his aims. His protest against jimcrowism reminded one of immortal William Monroe Trotter in action against "segregation which degrades."

Declaring that colored people "must stop trembling, compromising and playing Uncle Tom," he urged the delegates to support a set of recommendations that would "eliminate jimcrowism from the United States." In this connection he suggested that the conference should strongly support the movement for a Federal anti-lynching law, a civil rights act for the District of Columbia and other Federal territory—insuring colored people equal accommodations with white in public places; a bill prohibiting the placement on ballot of any candidate of a party that violated the Fourteenth Amendment and a bill prohibiting discrimination against any race, creed and color regarding employment in any Federal office. "This conference marks a new day in the relationship between the colored group and the Federal government," Mr. White continued. "Our chance has come at last to remove the barriers and burdens of inequality, insecurity and injustice that have confronted and hindered us for years."

Mr. White's speech should be printed in full in the next issue of THE CRISIS.

LLEWELLYN LEWIS

Chicago, Ill.

Editor's note: THE CRISIS and Mr. White thank Mr. Lewis for his recommendation, but Mr. White did not speak from a manuscript in Washington and his text therefore, is not, available for printing.

Thank You

TO THE EDITOR OF THE CRISIS:—Enclosed you will find money order for a two (2) years' subscription to your wonderful magazine.

Again I say congratulations! May you continue to merit compliments.

BRUCE T. WEAVER

Marion, Ind.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE CRISIS:—Please find enclosed my check for $2.50 for the special two years' subscription.

I always find The Crisis interesting, but the December number is particularly good with its article on the condition in Spain and its news of the "Big Time Football Stars."

BETSY B. DAVIS

Pearl River, N. Y.

Good Work

TO THE EDITOR OF THE CRISIS:—The Elizabeth branch of the N.A.A.C.P., discovering that THE CRISIS is not among the reading matter in the public library in our city, approached the management and requested them to include THE CRISIS among their magazines read.

The enclosed letter is in response to our effort.

Please send copy of THE CRISIS to the Elizabeth Public Library every month and charge same to the Elizabeth branch.

J. T. DAVIS, M.D.

Elizabeth, N. J.

TEN CENT CIGARETTES SEEK NEGRO TRADE

Two brands of ten-cent cigarettes, Marvels and Twenty Grand, are making a bid for Negro patronage by advertising in some of the Negro newspapers.

The leading fifteen-cent cigarettes put out by the huge tobacco companies have consistently ignored the Negro market and have refused to place any advertising whatsoever in Negro publications. These big companies spend millions of dollars annually on all kinds of advertising, but they make no special appeal to Negro purchasers.

It is estimated that if the Negro public would use some discrimination in the purchase of cigarettes, it is possible that a total of perhaps $100,000 for advertising might be spent in Negro newspapers and magazines by the manufacturers of the new ten-cent cigarettes and by the big companies who now make no special effort to get Negro trade.

America, Heed Our Cry

By MARK FISHER

We love this country's free yet biased soil
So fertilized with blood of servitude
Drawn from our backs as we were bent in toil.
Crushed from our limbs by hands so vilely crude.
Yet when we heard the cruel cry of war
We did not hesitate to heed its call,
But sallied forth in alien fields afar
That peace and freedom might endure for all.
But while our blood was being shed abroad,
At home our brothers' necks were being stretched
Across a limb while Christians cheered and roared
To see their hate in death so grimly sketched.
A stigma on this nation's mighty name—
America, you must remove this shame!

New Anti-Lynch Bill

(Continued from page 72)

decedent. Any judgment or award under this Act shall be exempt from all claims of creditors.

(3). Any judge of the United States District Court for the judicial district wherein any suit shall be instituted under the provisions of this Act may by order direct that such suit be tried in any division of such district as he may designate in such order.

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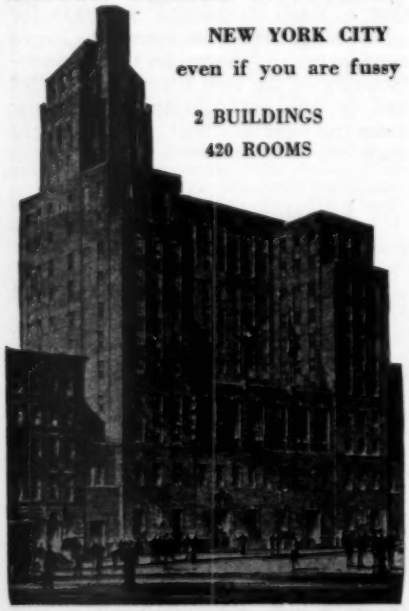

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